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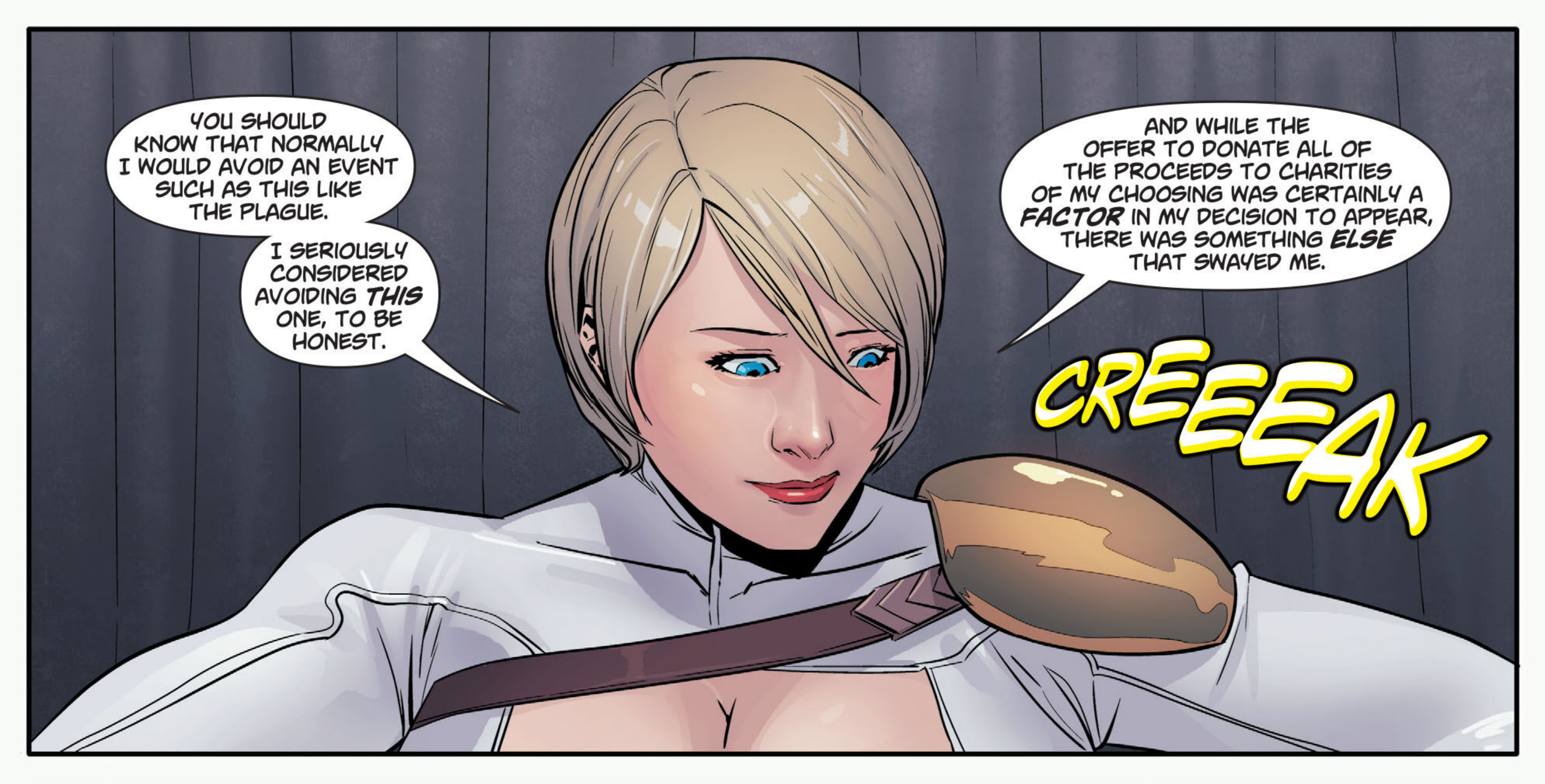
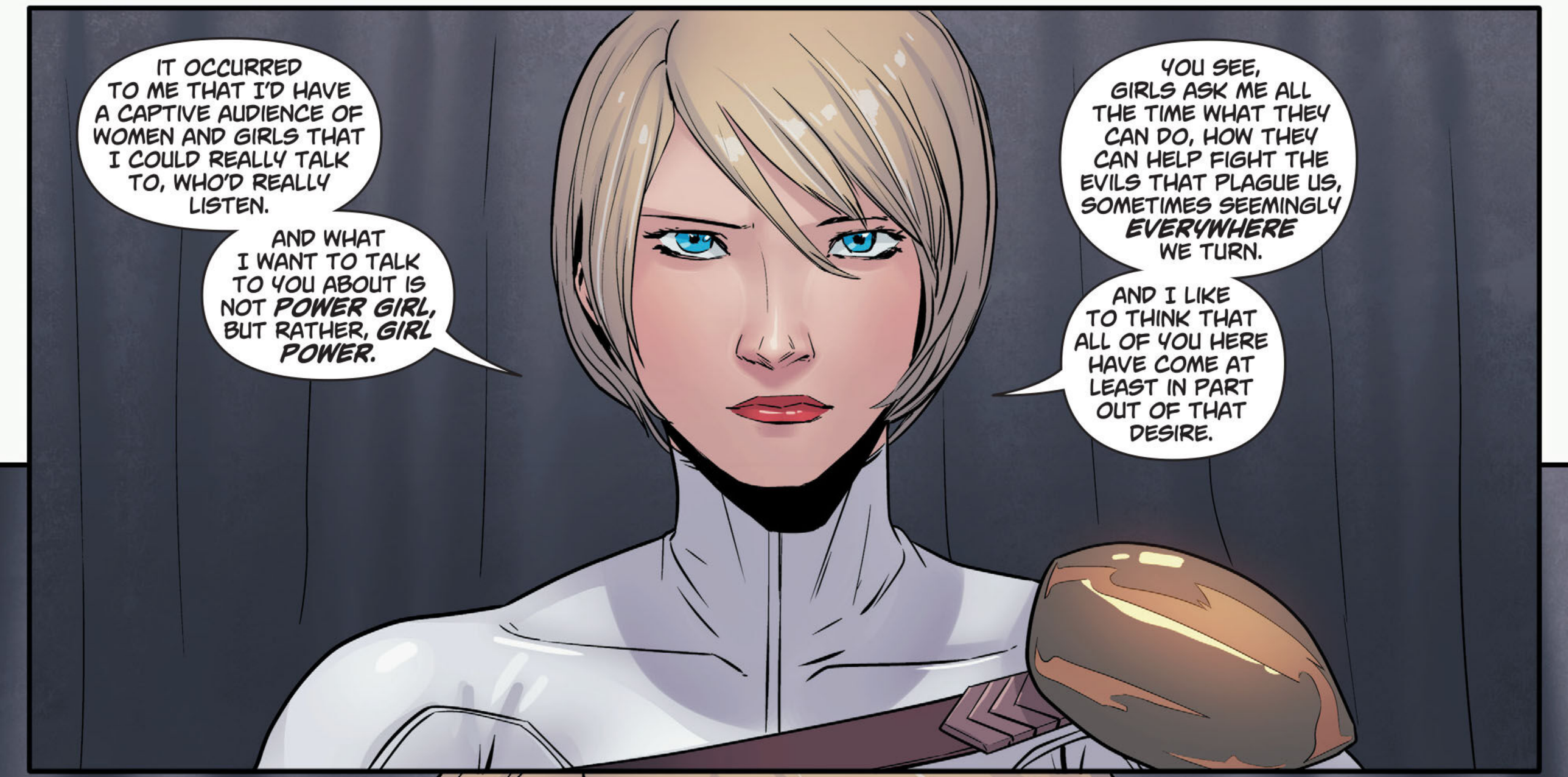
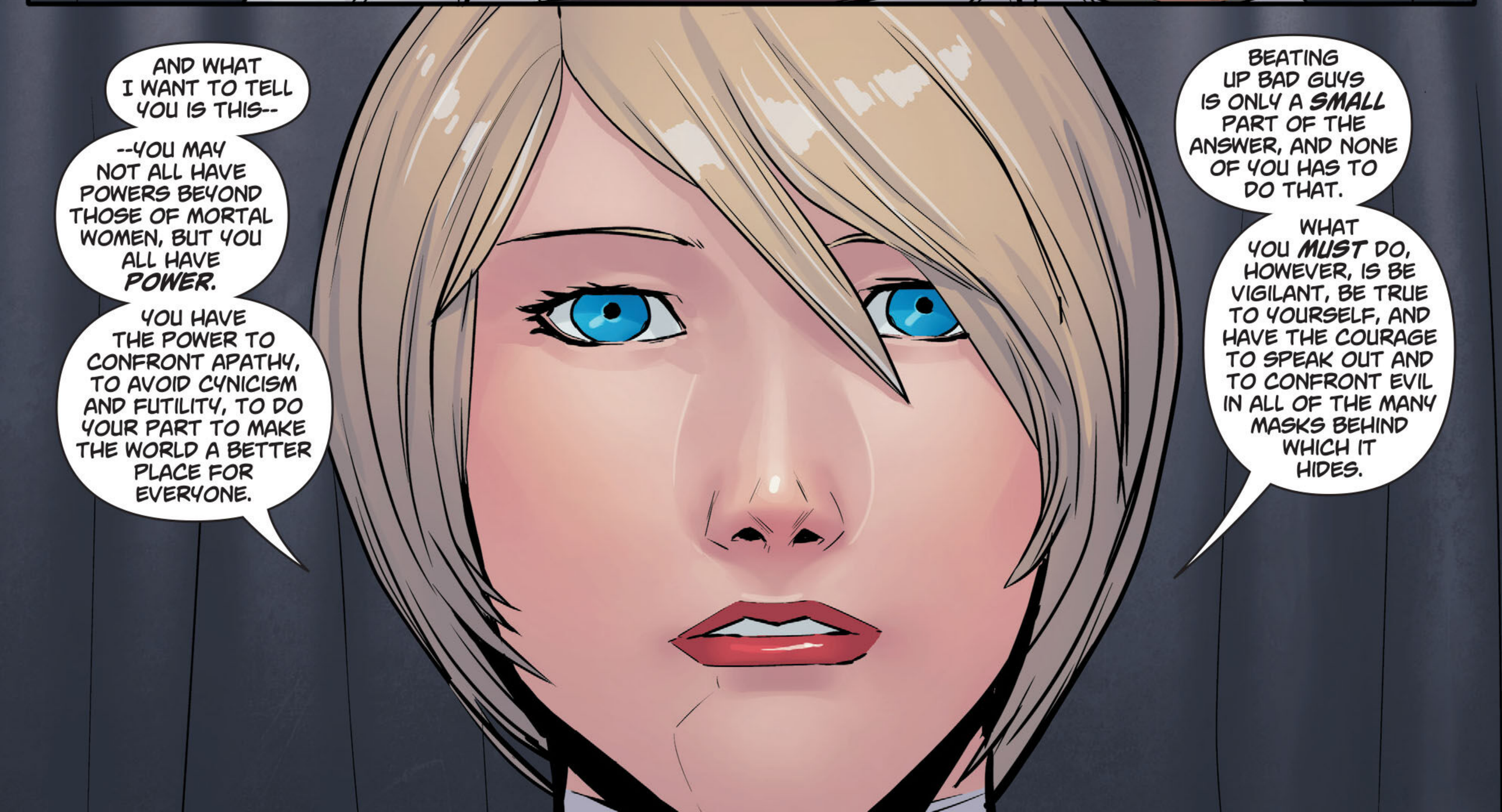
26
THE FIRST ANNUAL
POWER GIRL
CONVENTION!
Matthew STURGES
Hendry PRASETYA
RATED T TEEN
SEP 2011
dccomics.com


YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT NORMALLY I WOULD AVOID AN EVENT SUCH AS THIS LIKE THE PLAGUE.
I SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED AVOIDING THIS ONE, TO BE HONEST.
AND WHILE THE OFFER TO DONATE ALL OF THE PROCEEDS TO CHARITIES OF MY CHOOSING WAS CERTAINLY A FACTOR IN MY DECISION TO APPEAR, THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE THAT SWAYED ME.
CREEEAK


IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I'D HAVE A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS THAT I COULD REALLY TALK TO, WHO'D REALLY LISTEN.
AND WHAT I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IS NOT POWER GIRL, BUT RATHER, GIRL POWER.
YOU SEE, GIRLS ASK ME ALL THE TIME WHAT THEY CAN DO, HOW THEY CAN HELP FIGHT THE EVILS THAT PLAGUE US, SOMETIMES SEEMINGLY EVERYWHERE WE TURN.
AND I LIKE TO THINK THAT ALL OF YOU HERE HAVE COME AT LEAST IN PART OUT OF THAT DESIRE.


AND WHAT I WANT TO TELL YOU IS THIS--
--YOU MAY NOT ALL HAVE POWERS BEYOND THOSE OF MORTAL WOMEN, BUT YOU ALL HAVE POWER.
YOU HAVE THE POWER TO CONFRONT APATHY, TO AVOID CYNICISM AND FUTILITY, TO DO YOUR PART TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR EVERYONE.
BEATING UP BAD GUYS IS ONLY A SMALL PART OF THE ANSWER, AND NONE OF YOU HAS TO DO THAT.
WHAT YOU MUST DO, HOWEVER, IS BE VIGILANT, BE TRUE TO YOURSELF, AND HAVE THE COURAGE TO SPEAK OUT AND TO CONFRONT EVIL IN ALL OF THE MANY MASKS BEHIND WHICH IT HIDES.

HAHAHAHAHA!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
OF COURSE, IF ANY OF YOU CAN BEND STEEL BARS WITH YOUR BARE HANDS, COME TALK TO ME AFTER THE SHOW.
FIRST ANNUAL POWER GIRL CONVENTION
GIRL POWER!
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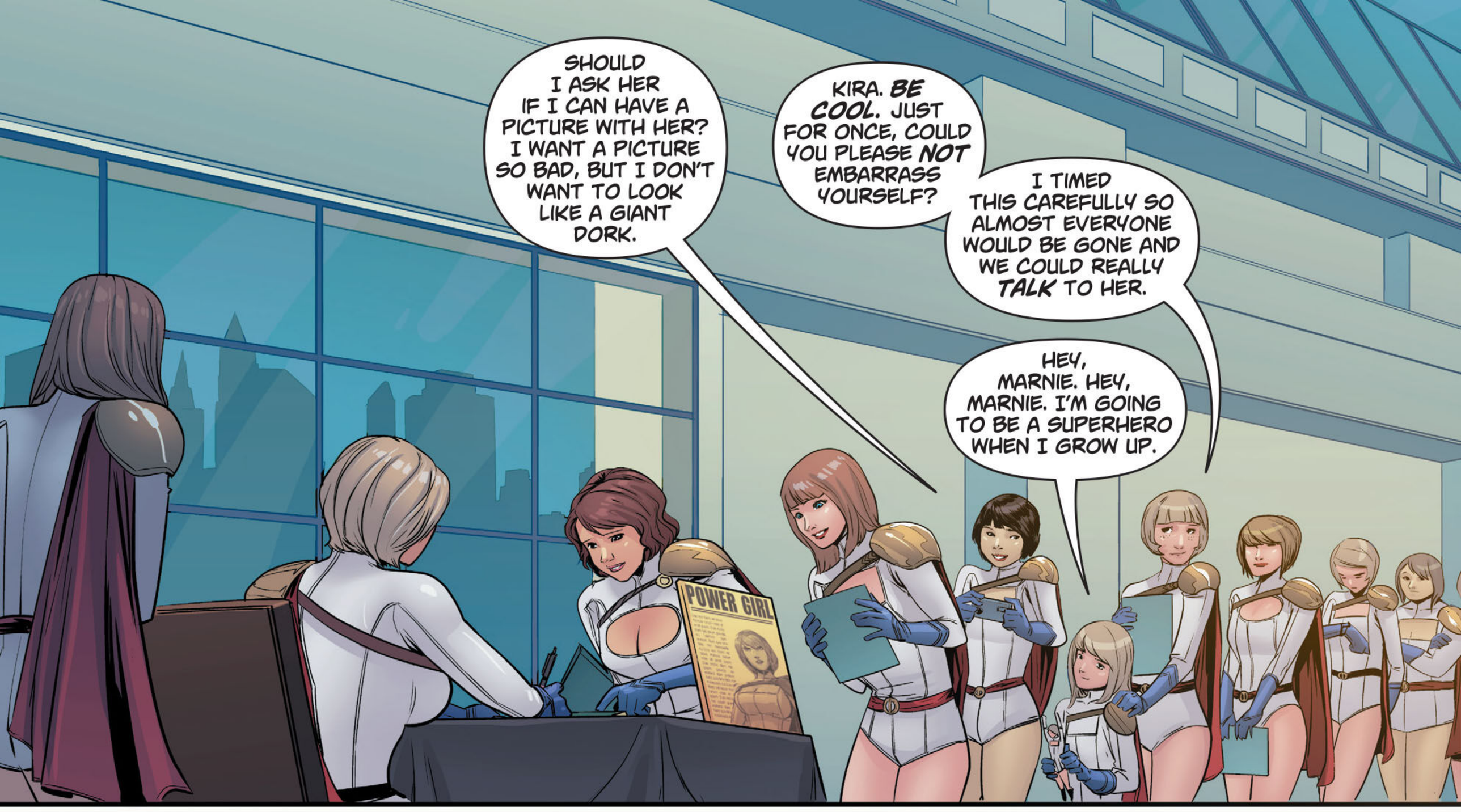
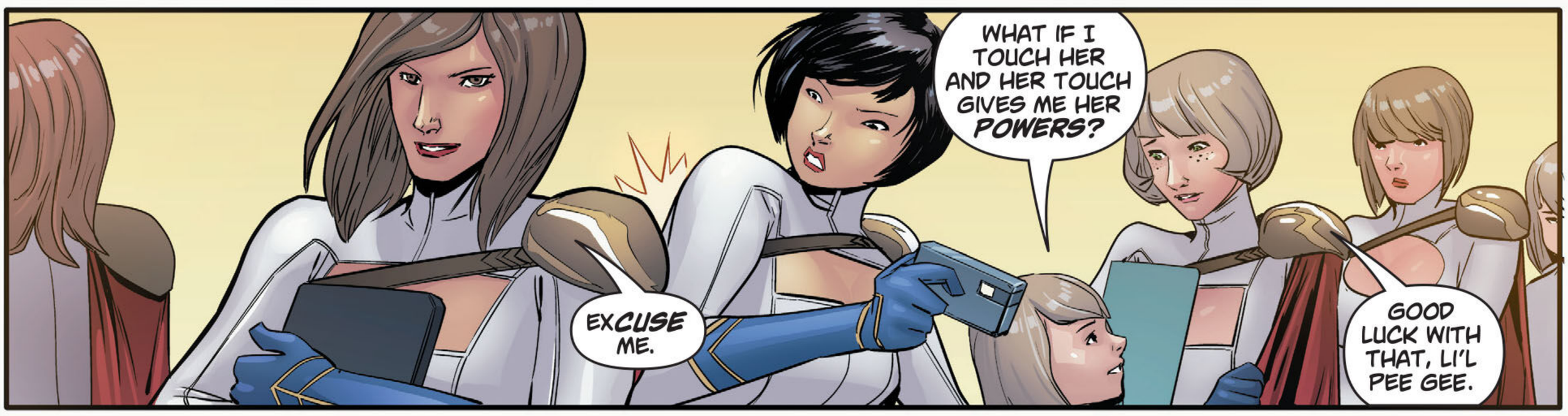
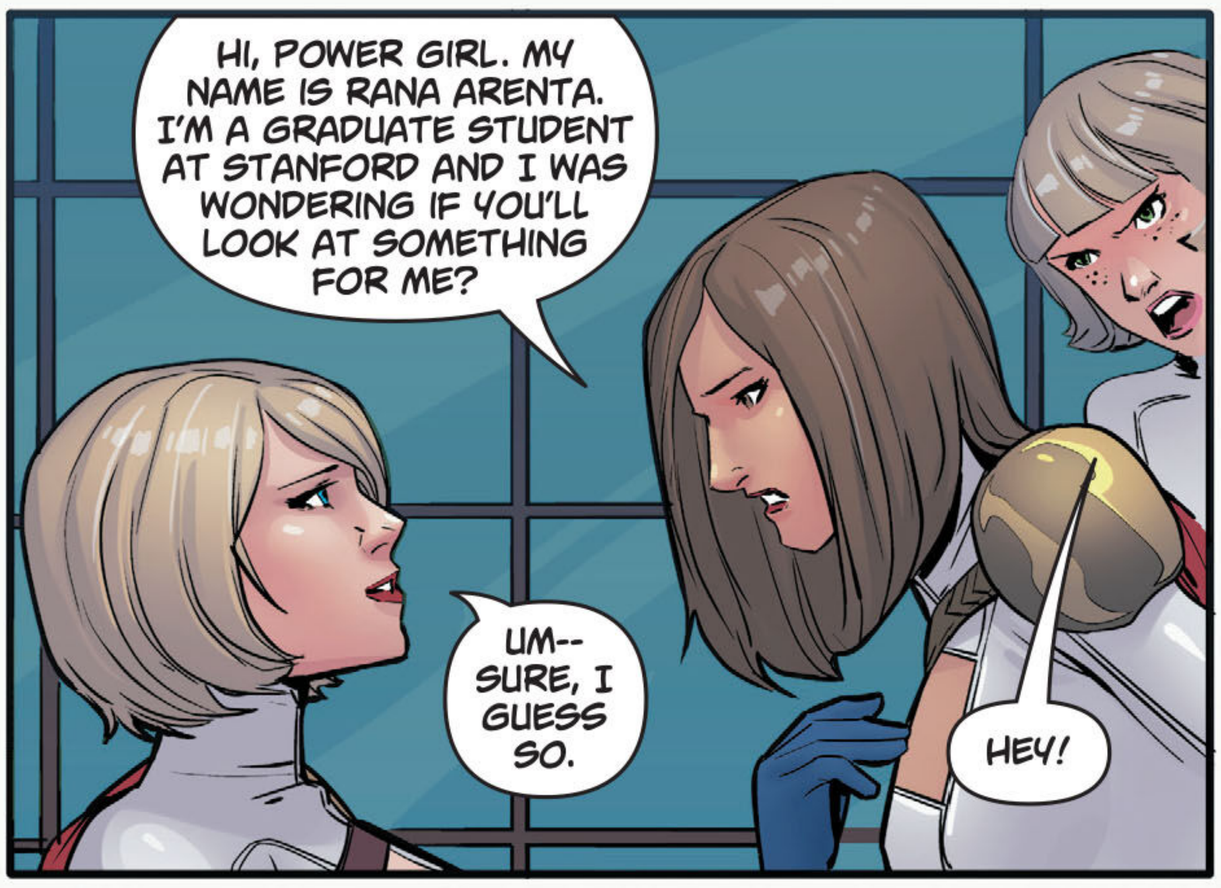
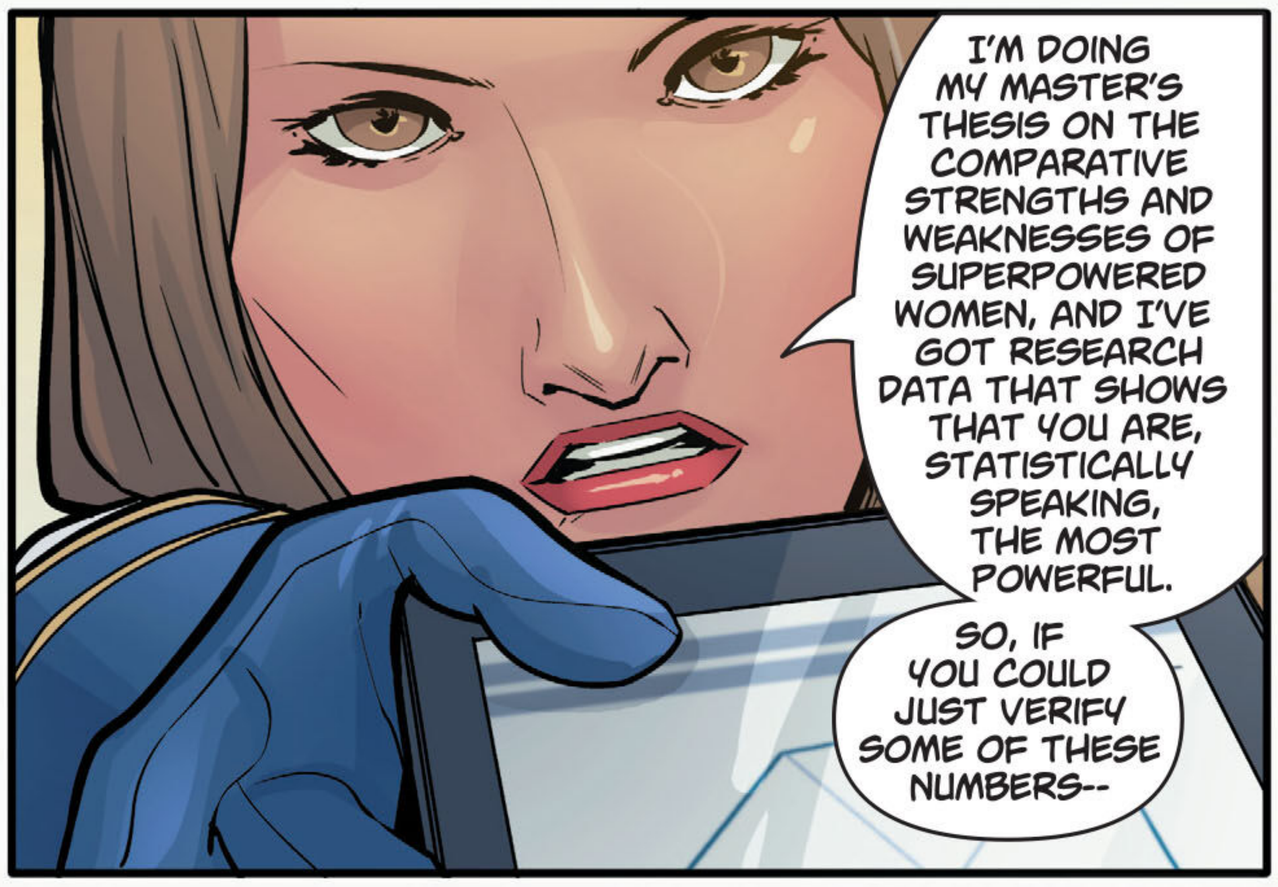
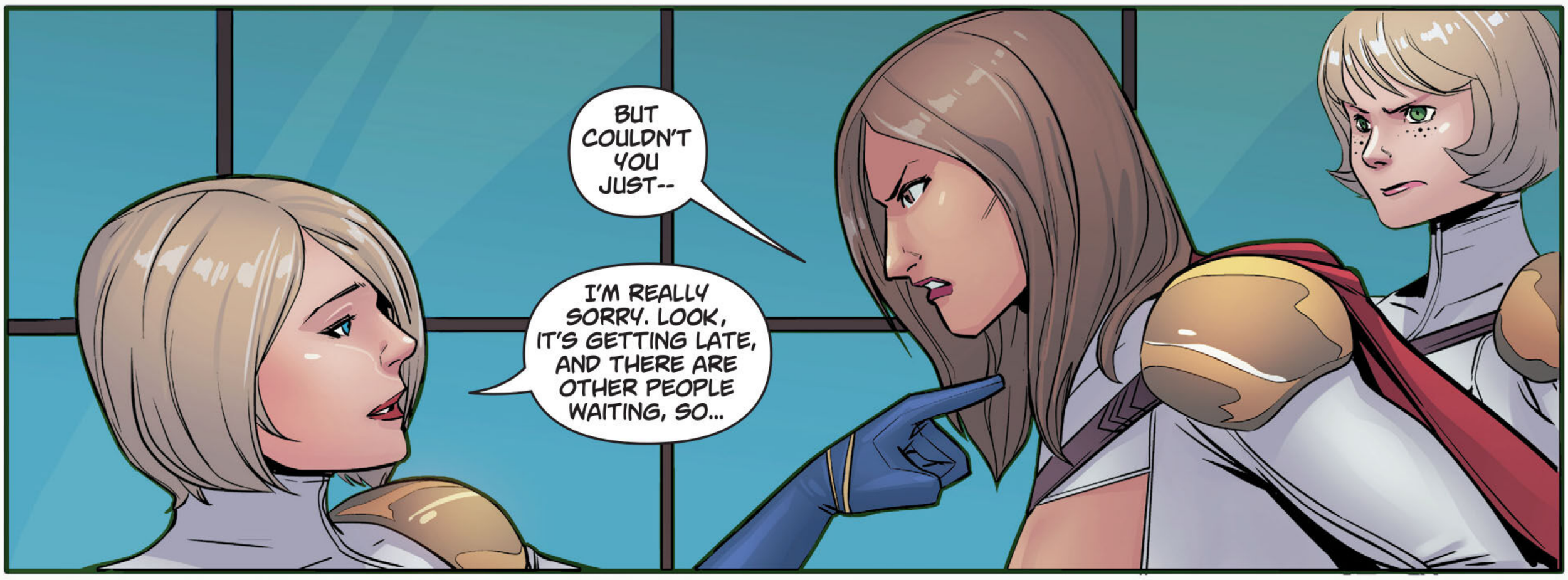

SHOULD I ASK HER IF I CAN HAVE A PICTURE WITH HER? I WANT A PICTURE SO BAD, BUT I DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE A GIANT DORK.
KIRA. BE COOL. JUST FOR ONCE, COULD YOU PLEASE NOT EMBARRASS YOURSELF?
I TIMED THIS CAREFULLY SO ALMOST EVERYONE WOULD BE GONE AND WE COULD REALLY TALK TO HER.
HEY, MARNIE. HEY, MARNIE. I'M GOING TO BE A SUPERHERO WHEN I GROW UP.
POWER GIRL

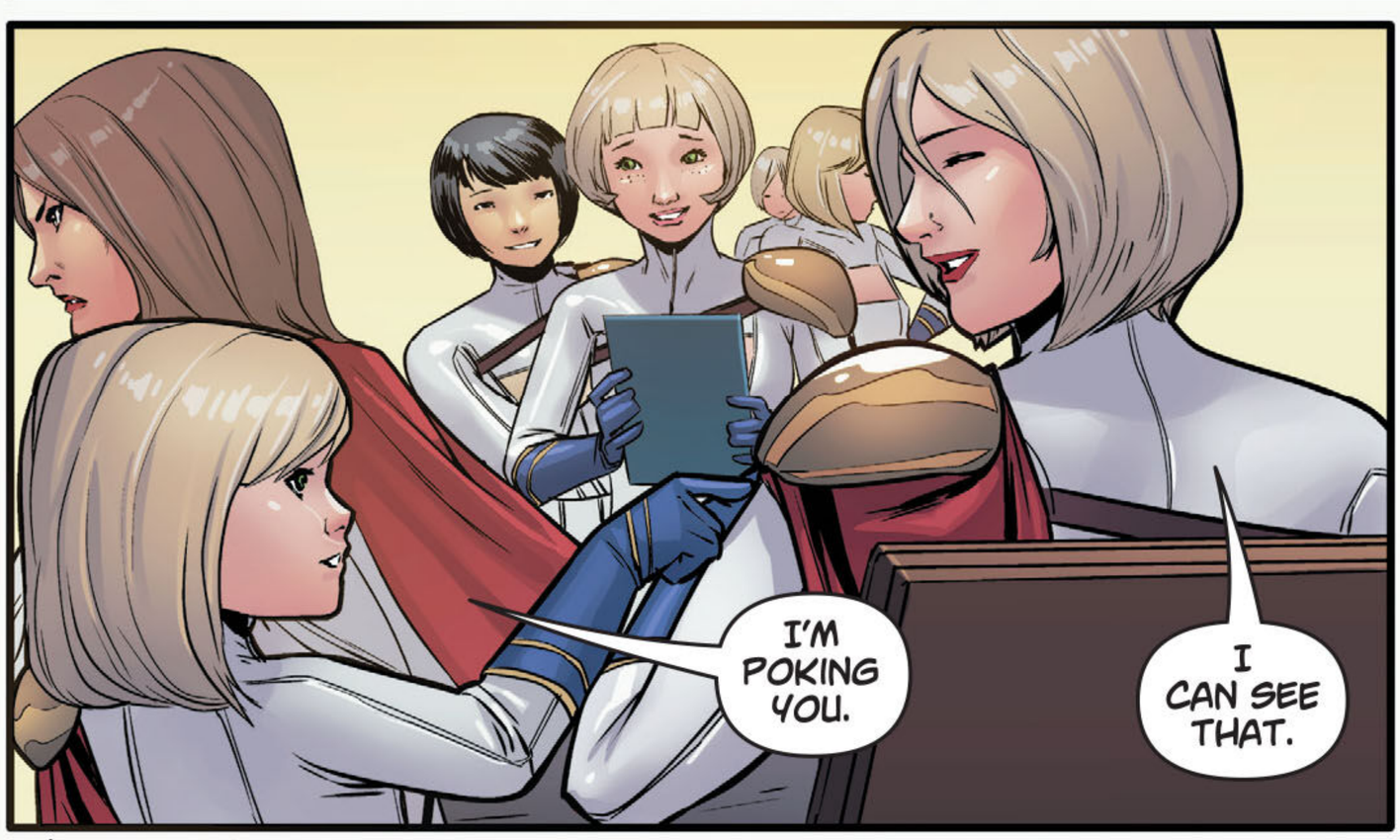

WHAT IF I TOUCH HER AND HER TOUCH GIVES ME HER POWERS?
EXCUSE ME.
GOOD LUCK WITH THAT, LI'L PEE GEE.

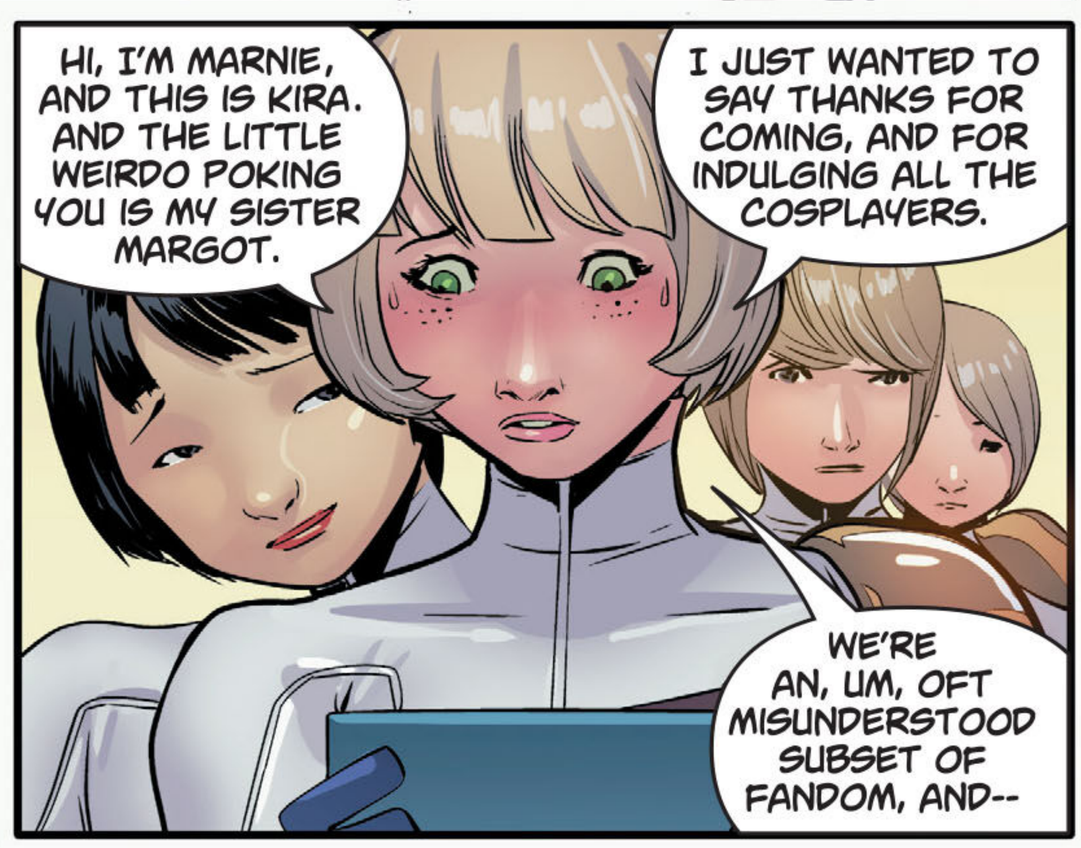

HI, POWER GIRL. MY NAME IS RANA ARENTA. I'M A GRADUATE STUDENT AT STANFORD AND I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'LL LOOK AT SOMETHING FOR ME?
UM-- SURE, I GUESS SO.
HEY!

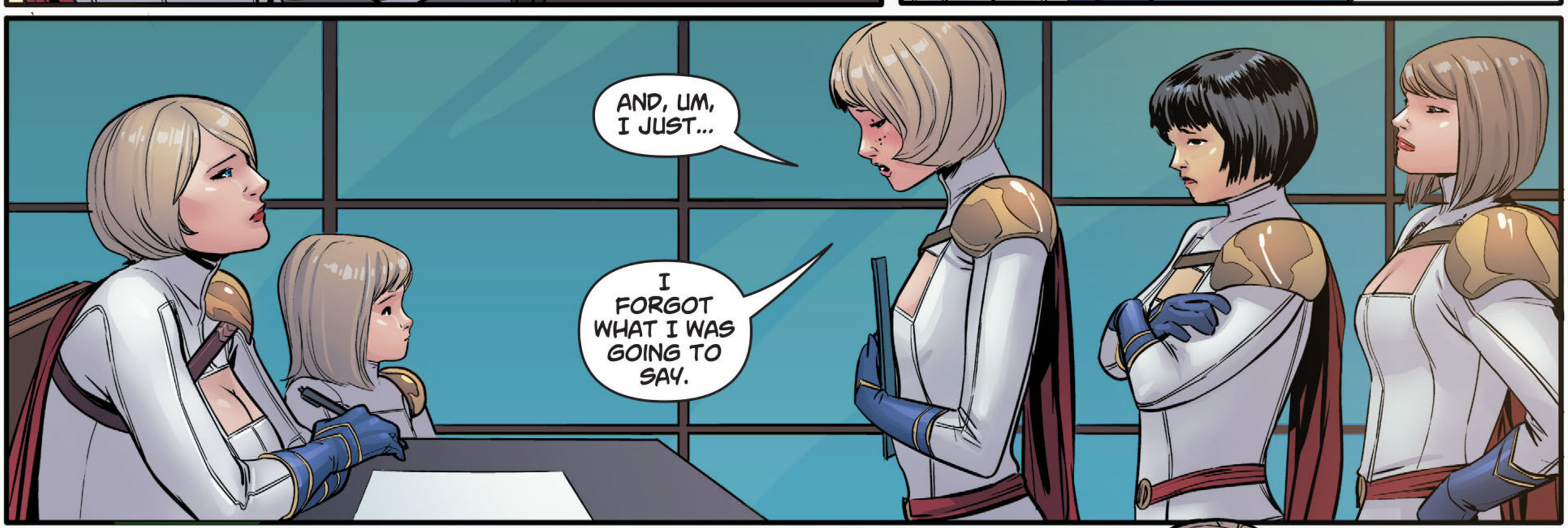

I'M DOING MY MASTER'S THESIS ON THE COMPARATIVE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF SUPERPOWERED WOMEN, AND I'VE GOT RESEARCH DATA THAT SHOWS THAT YOU ARE, STATISTICALLY SPEAKING, THE MOST POWERFUL.
SO, IF YOU COULD JUST VERIFY SOME OF THESE NUMBERS--

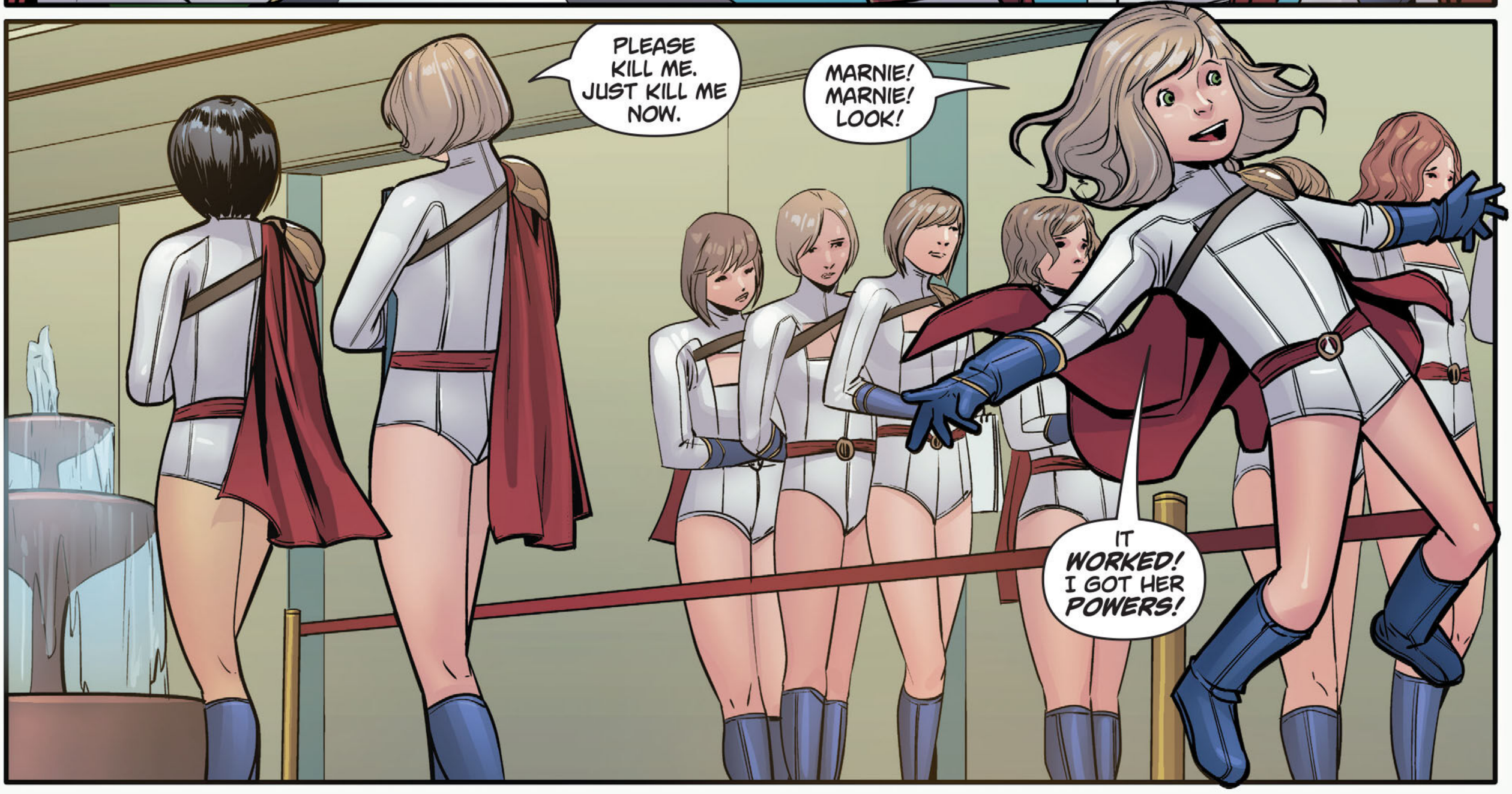
LISTEN, THAT'S VERY SWEET OF YOU. AND BETWEEN YOU AND ME YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN'T VERIFY ANY OF THIS DATA.
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE THRILLED TO USE IT AGAINST ME.

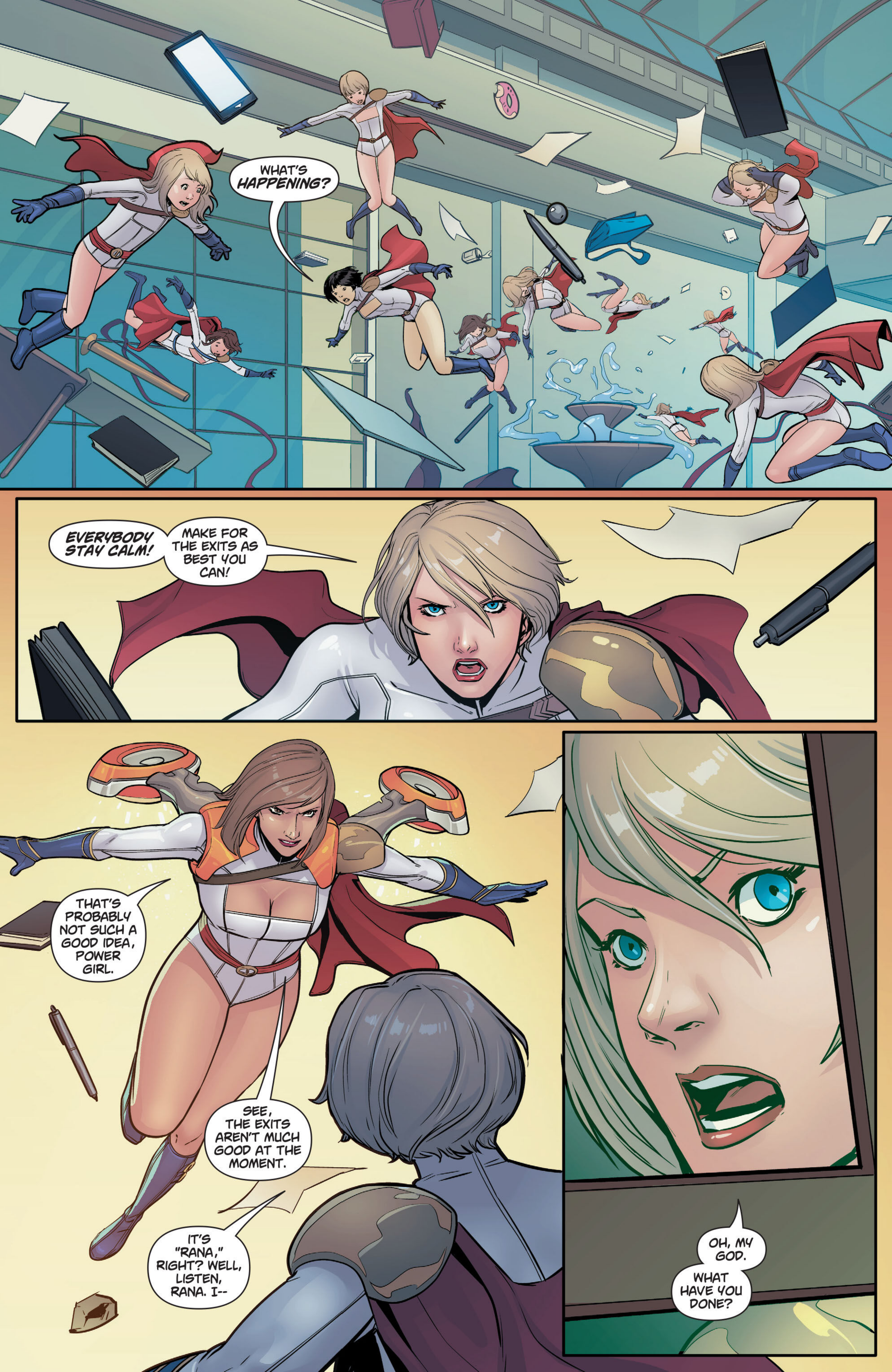

BUT COULDN'T YOU JUST--
I'M REALLY SORRY. LOOK, IT'S GETTING LATE, AND THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE WAITING, SO...

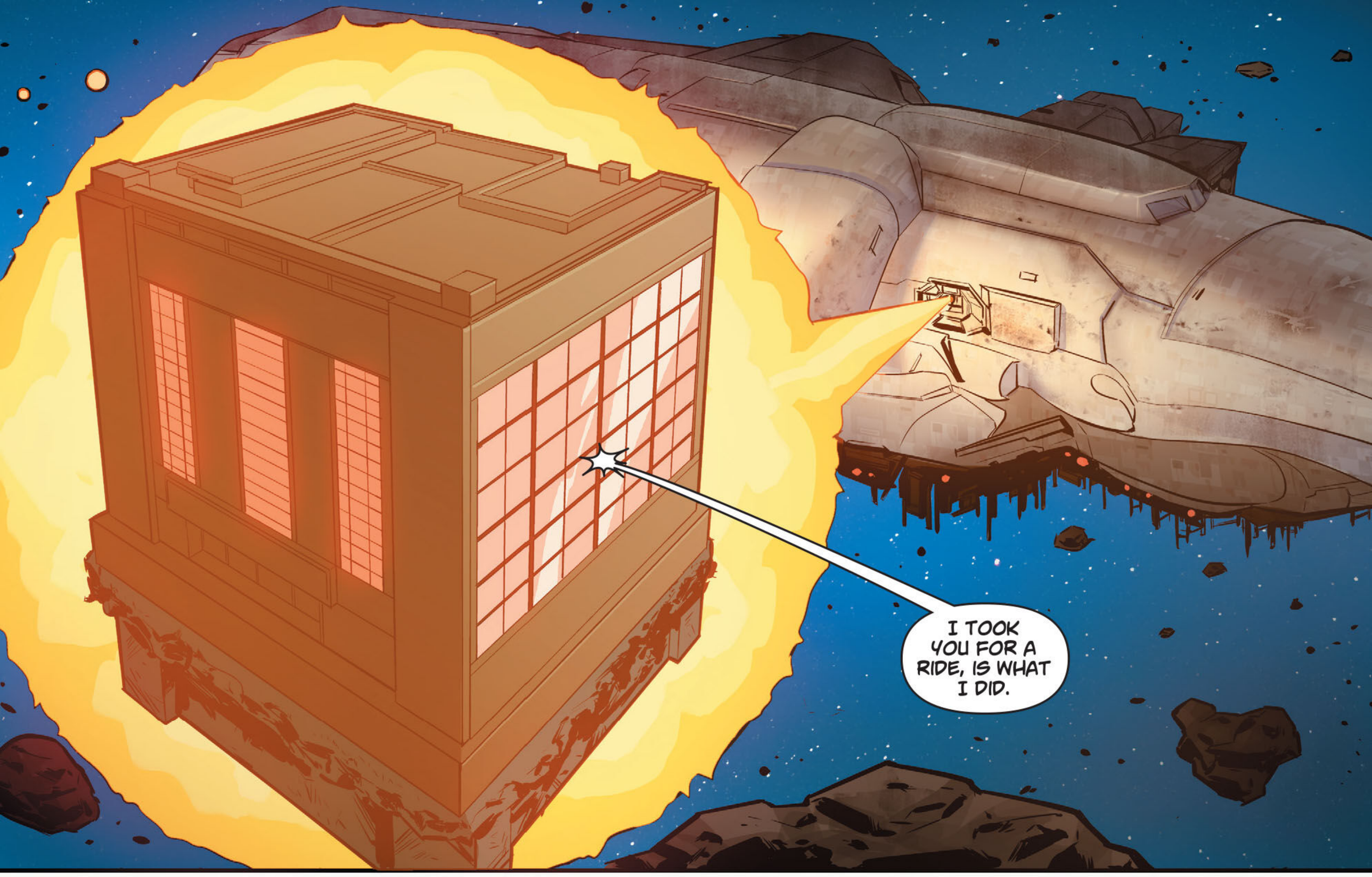

I'M POKING YOU.
I CAN SEE THAT.

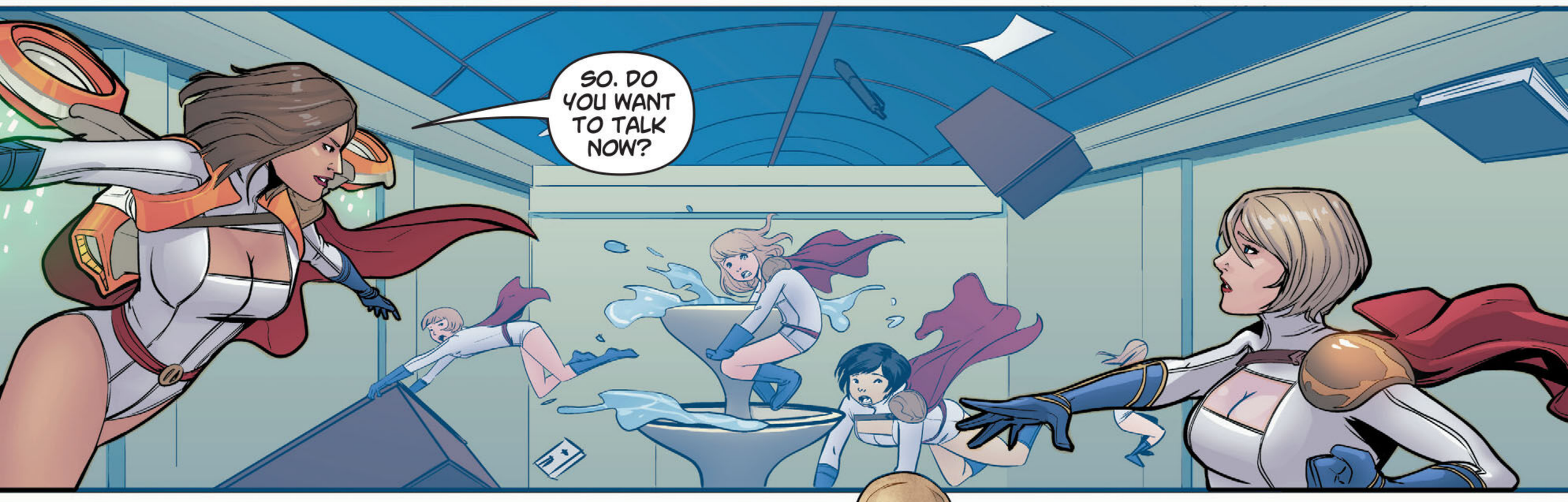

HI, I'M MARNIE, AND THIS IS KIRA. AND THE LITTLE WEIRDO POKING YOU IS MY SISTER MARGOT.
I JUST WANTED TO SAY THANKS FOR COMING, AND FOR INDULGING ALL THE COSPLAYERS.
WE'RE AN, UM, OFT MISUNDERSTOOD SUBSET OF FANDOM, AND--


AND, UM, I JUST...
I FORGOT WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY.


PLEASE KILL ME. JUST KILL ME NOW.
MARNIE! MARNIE! LOOK!
IT WORKED! I GOT HER POWERS!


WHAT'S HAPPENING?
EVERYBODY STAY CALM!
MAKE FOR THE EXITS AS BEST YOU CAN!
THAT'S PROBABLY NOT SUCH A GOOD IDEA, POWER GIRL.
SEE, THE EXITS AREN'T MUCH GOOD AT THE MOMENT.
IT'S "RANA," RIGHT? WELL, LISTEN, RANA. I--
OH, MY GOD.
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?


I TOOK YOU FOR A RIDE, IS WHAT I DID.


SO. DO YOU WANT TO TALK NOW?

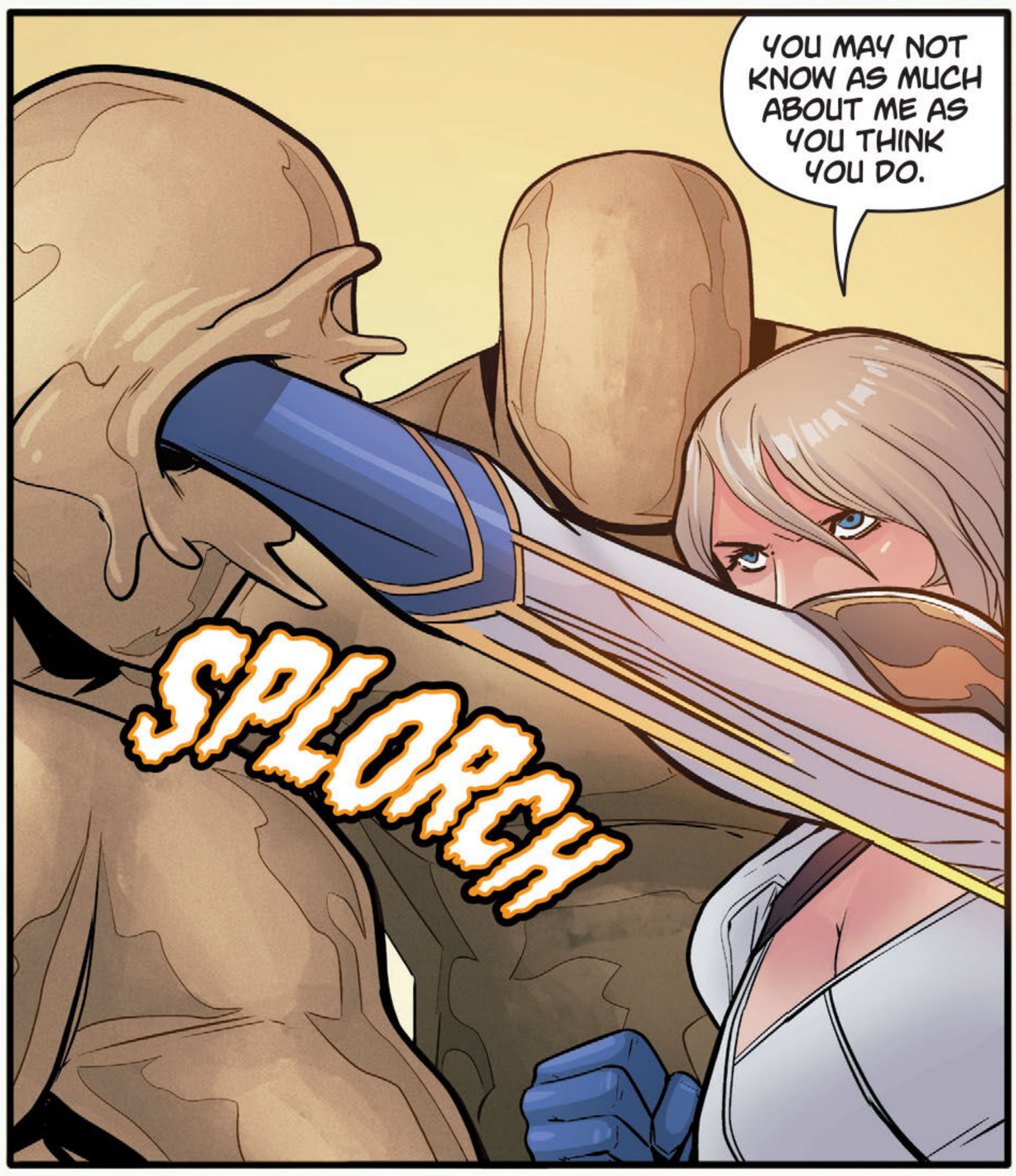
OR DO WE NEED TO GET *ROUGH*?

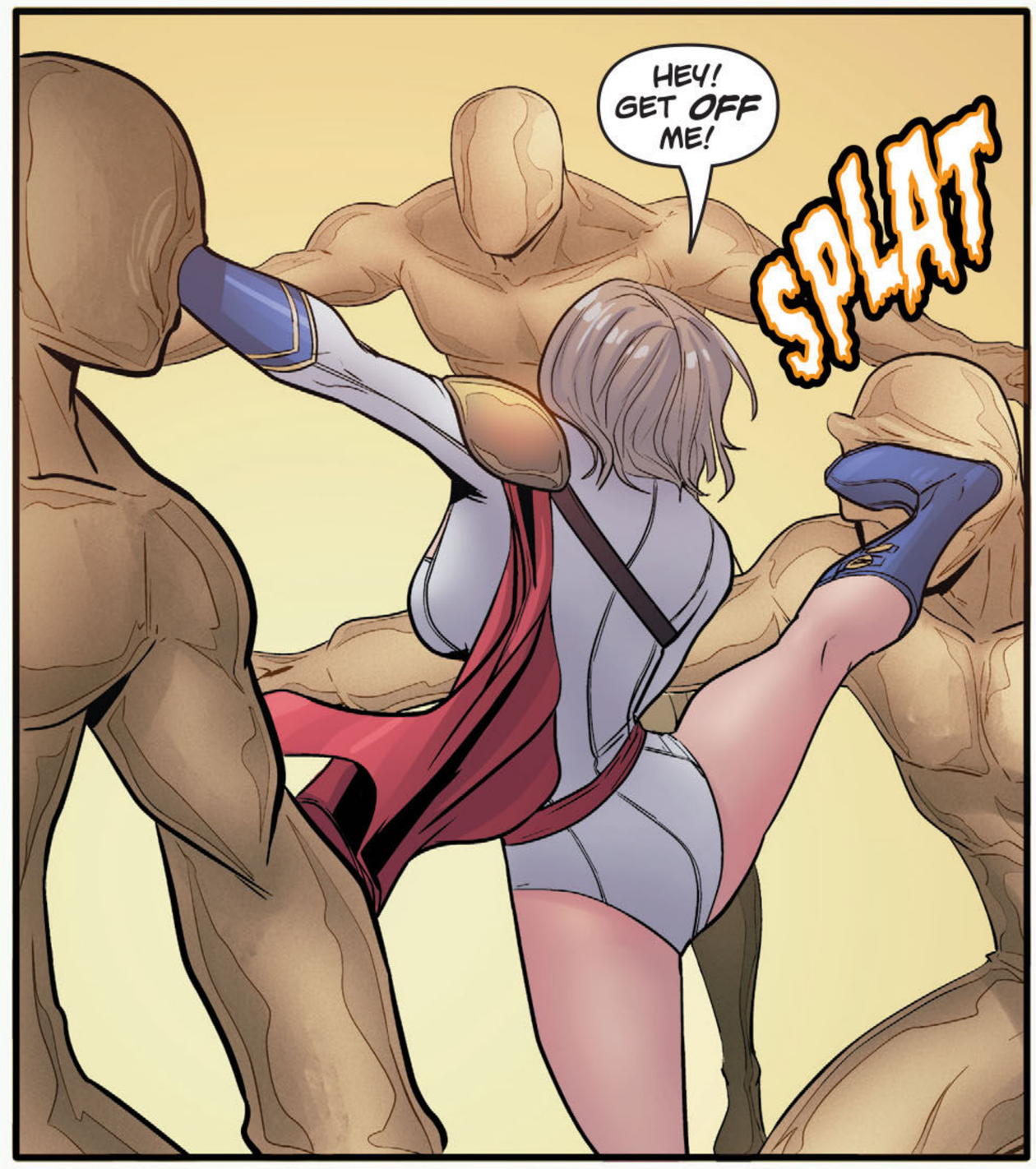
STOP THIS. NOW.

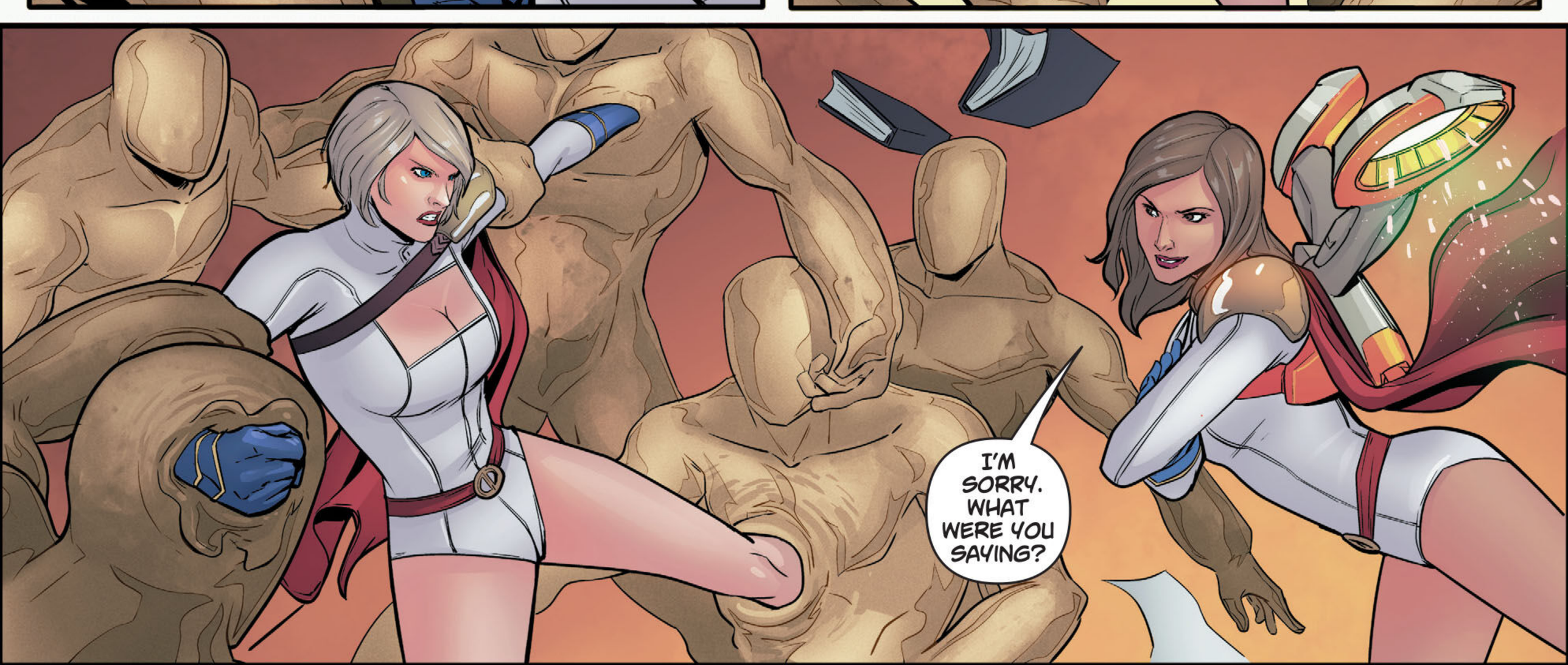
DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT TAKING THIS--WHATEVER *THIS* IS--ONE STEP FURTHER.

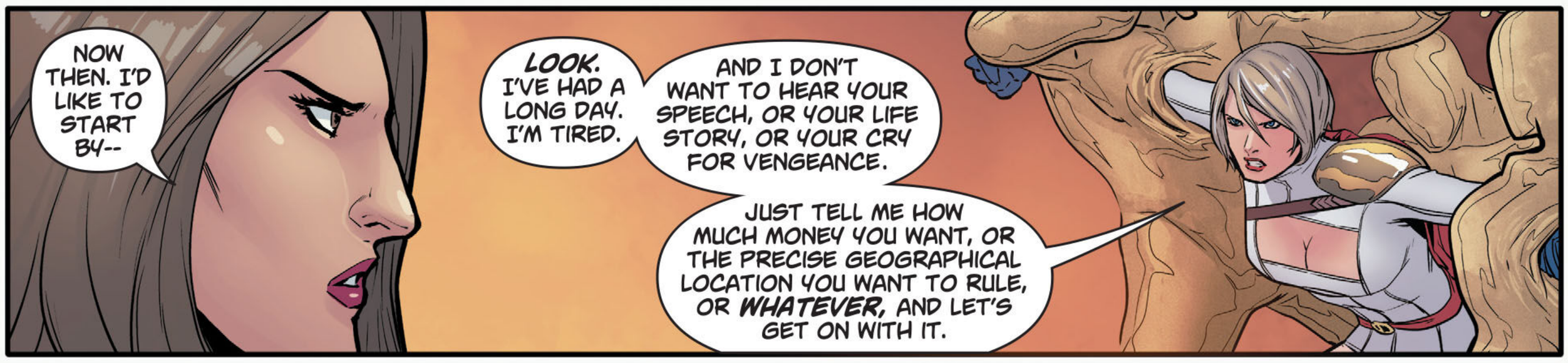
I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT YOU WON'T DO WELL AGAINST THESE GOLEMS.

THEY'RE CREATURES OF ALMOST PURE MAGIC, AND I'M TOLD THAT KRYPTONIANS AREN'T VERY GOOD AGAINST MAGIC.

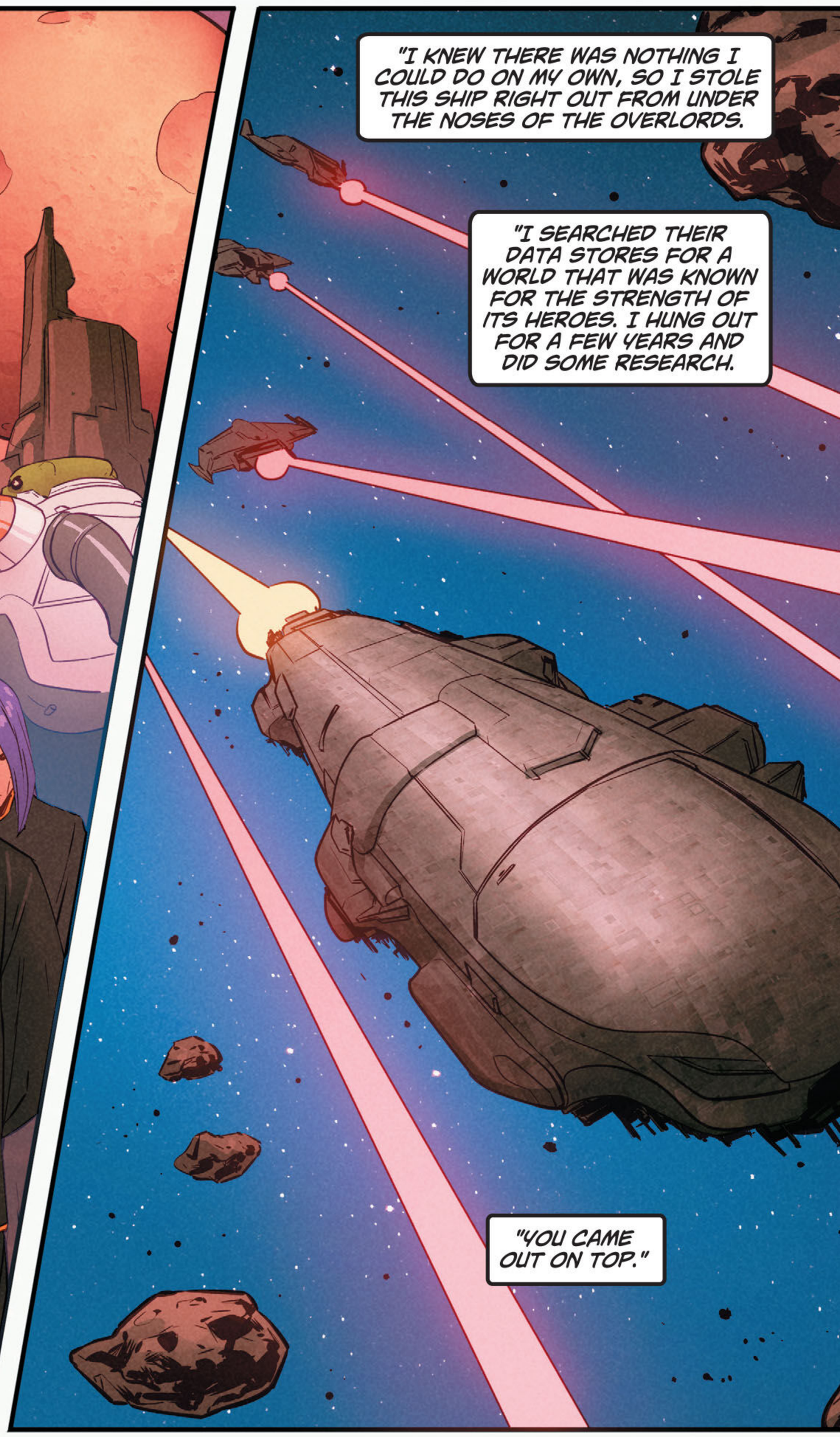


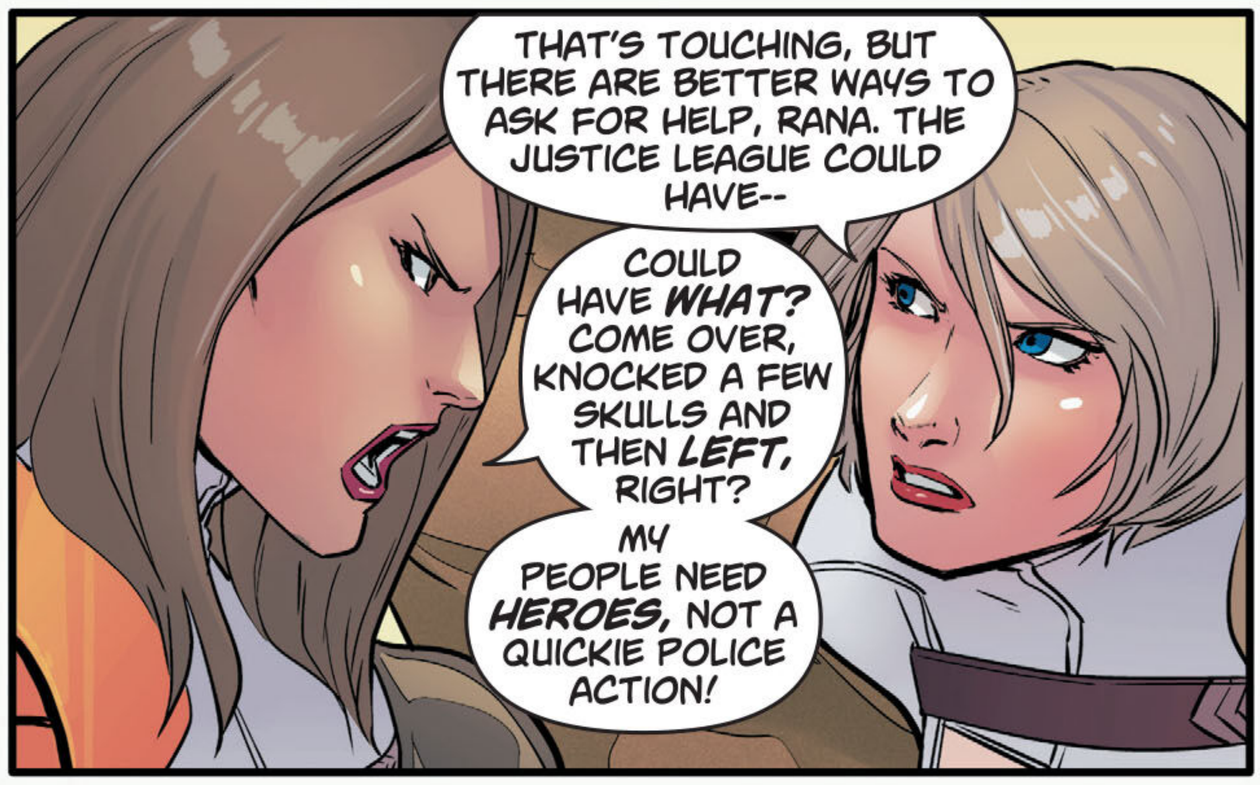


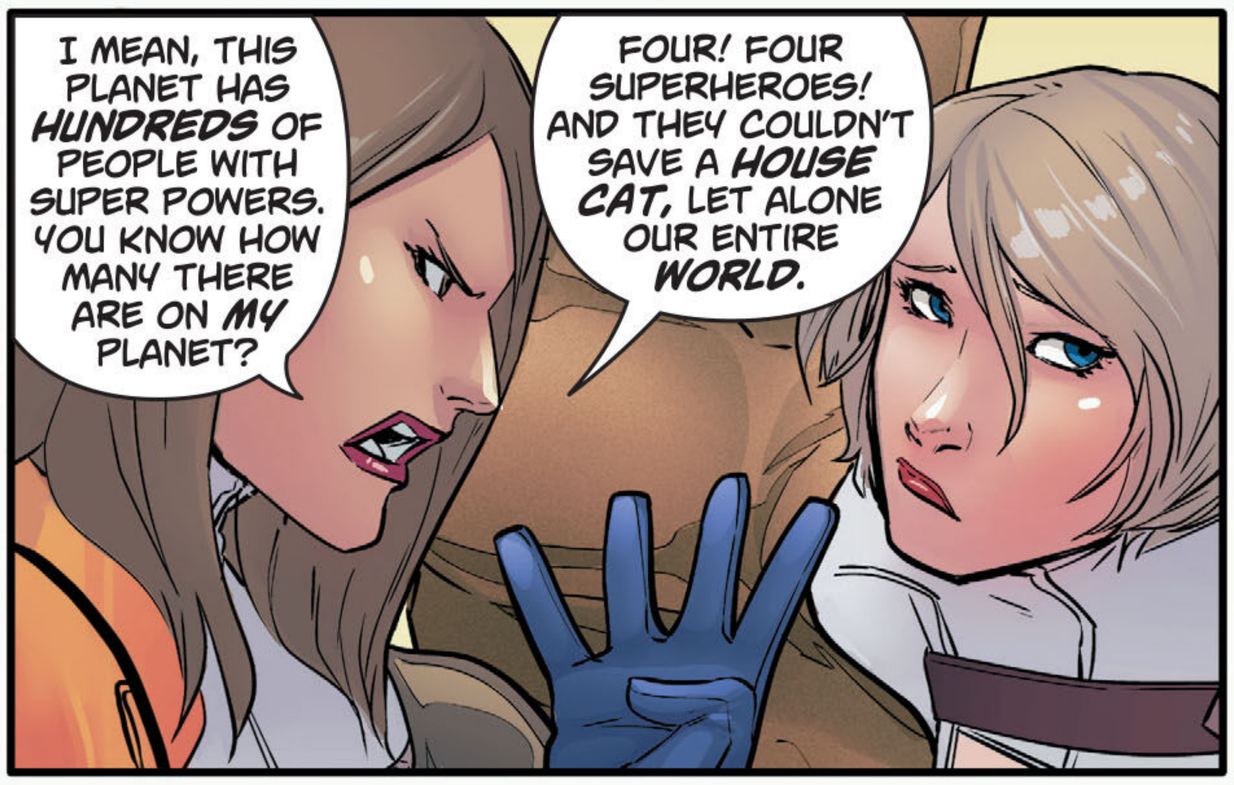


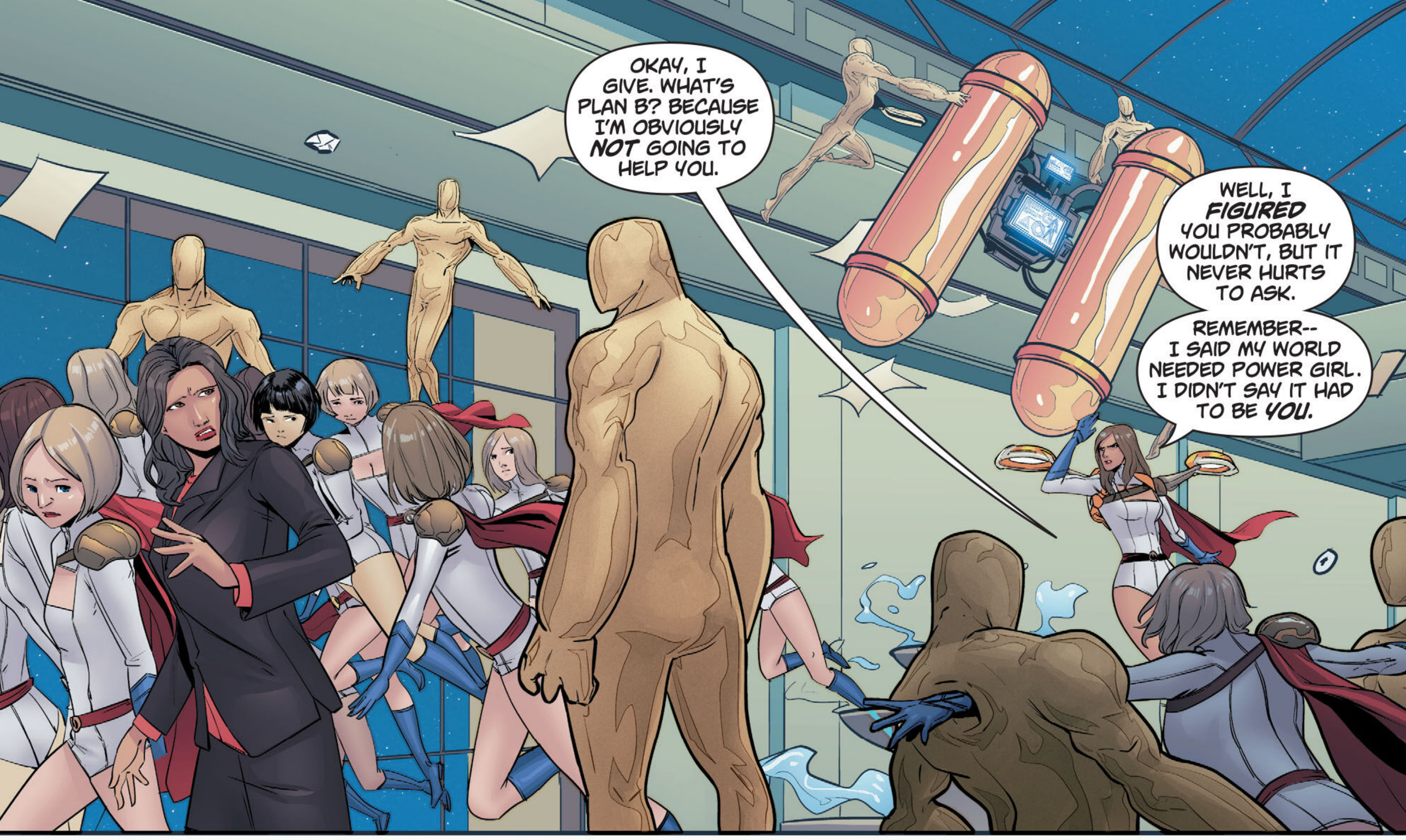

NOW THEN. I'D LIKE TO START BY--
LOOK. I'VE HAD A LONG DAY. I'M TIRED.
AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR YOUR SPEECH, OR YOUR LIFE STORY, OR YOUR CRY FOR VENGEANCE.
JUST TELL ME HOW MUCH MONEY YOU WANT, OR THE PRECISE GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION YOU WANT TO RULE, OR WHATEVER, AND LET'S GET ON WITH IT.

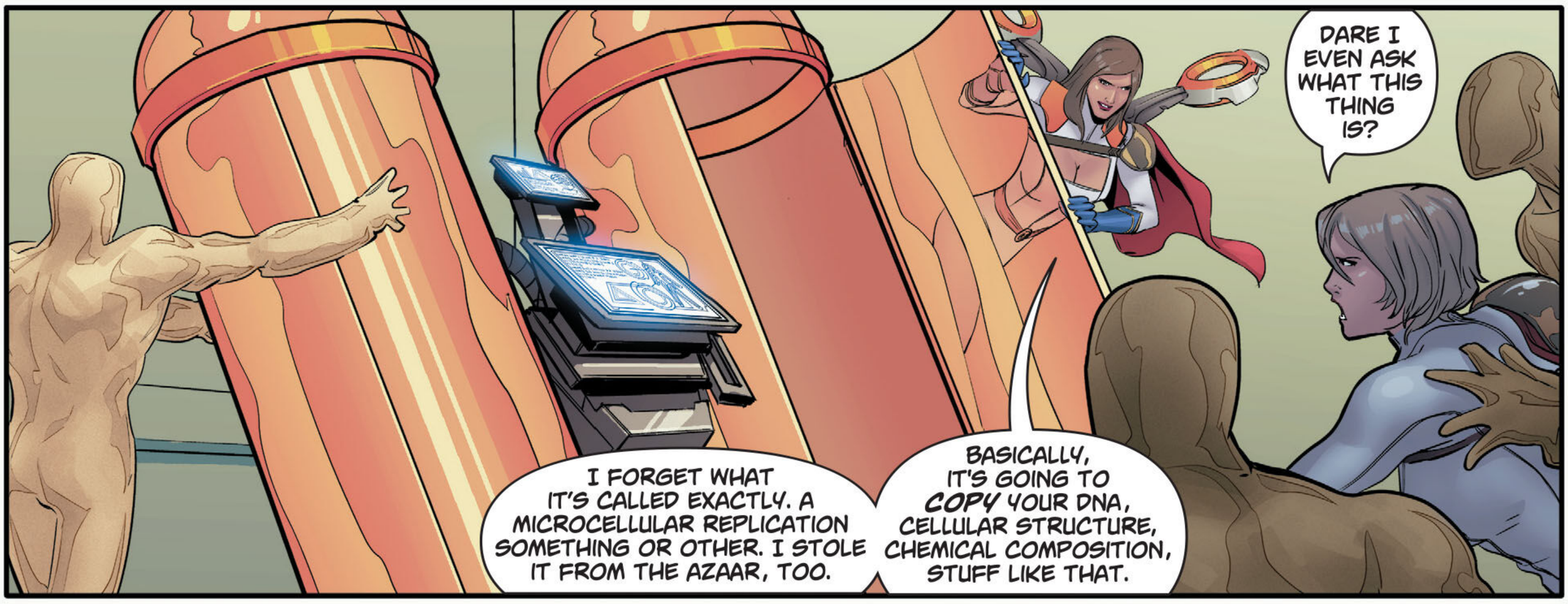
"I'LL BE BRIEF THEN. MY PLANET, ARENTA, HAS BEEN RULED BY THE OVERLORDS OF AZAAR FOR OVER A HUNDRED YEARS.
"WE'RE HELPLESS. WE NEED A HERO. WE NEED POWER GIRL.

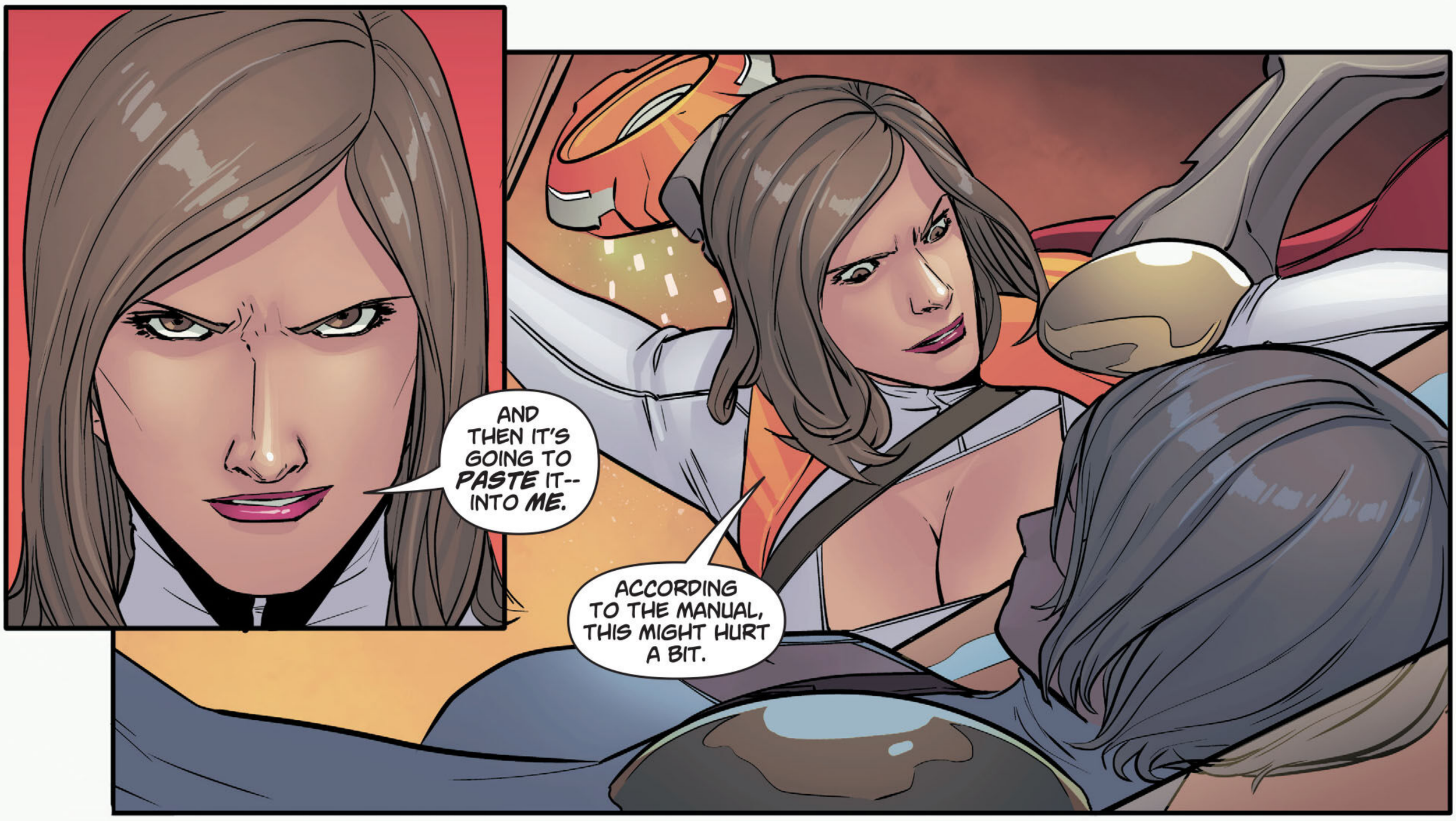

"I KNEW THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO ON MY OWN, SO I STOLE THIS SHIP RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER THE NOSES OF THE OVERLORDS.
"I SEARCHED THEIR DATA STORES FOR A WORLD THAT WAS KNOWN FOR THE STRENGTH OF ITS HEROES. I HUNG OUT FOR A FEW YEARS AND DID SOME RESEARCH.
"YOU CAME OUT ON TOP."


THAT'S TOUCHING, BUT THERE ARE BETTER WAYS TO ASK FOR HELP, RANA. THE JUSTICE LEAGUE COULD HAVE--
COULD HAVE WHAT? COME OVER, KNOCKED A FEW SKULLS AND THEN LEFT, RIGHT?
MY PEOPLE NEED HEROES, NOT A QUICKIE POLICE ACTION!

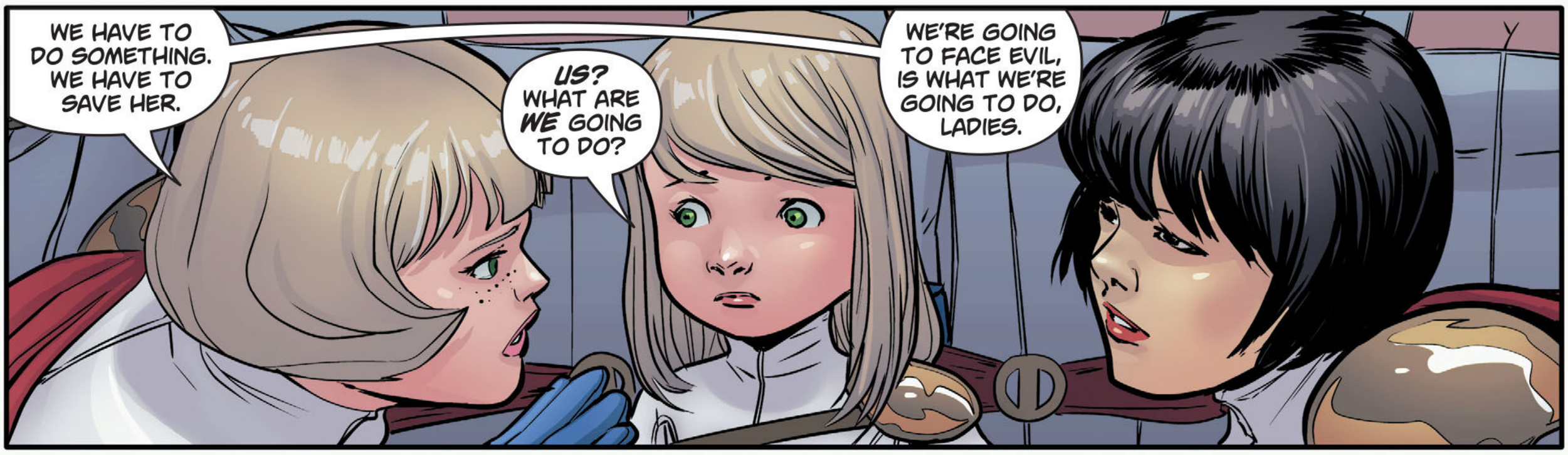

I MEAN, THIS PLANET HAS HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WITH SUPER POWERS. YOU KNOW HOW MANY THERE ARE ON MY PLANET?
FOUR! FOUR SUPERHEROES! AND THEY COULDN'T SAVE A HOUSE CAT, LET ALONE OUR ENTIRE WORLD.

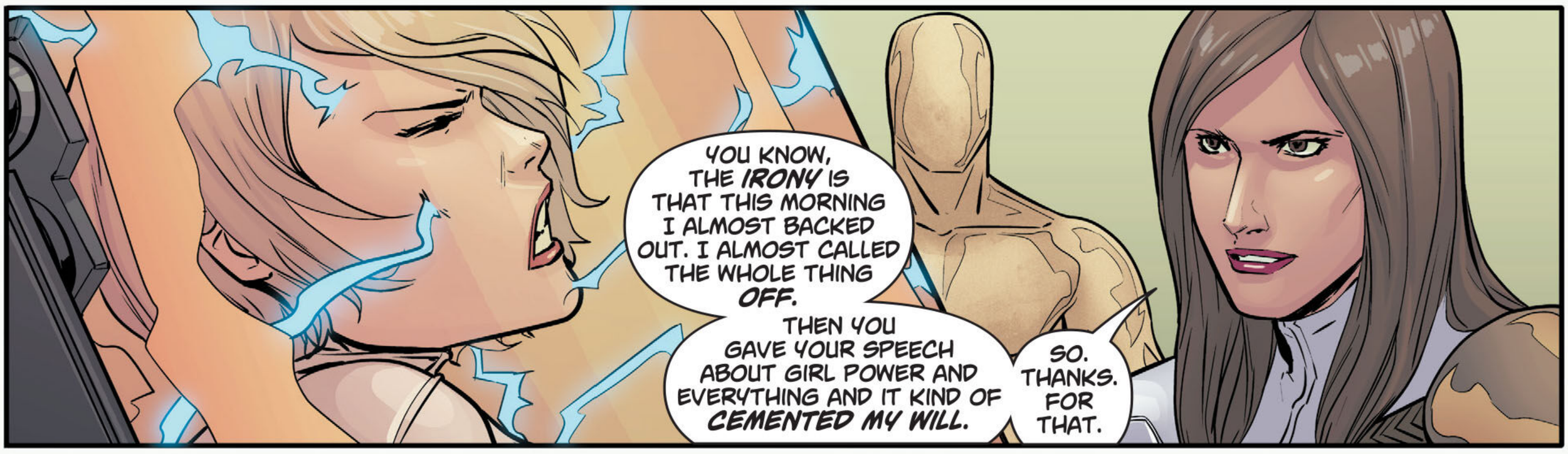

OKAY, I GIVE. WHAT'S PLAN B? BECAUSE I'M OBVIOUSLY NOT GOING TO HELP YOU.
WELL, I FIGURED YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T, BUT IT NEVER HURTS TO ASK.
REMEMBER-- I SAID MY WORLD NEEDED POWER GIRL. I DIDN'T SAY IT HAD TO BE YOU.

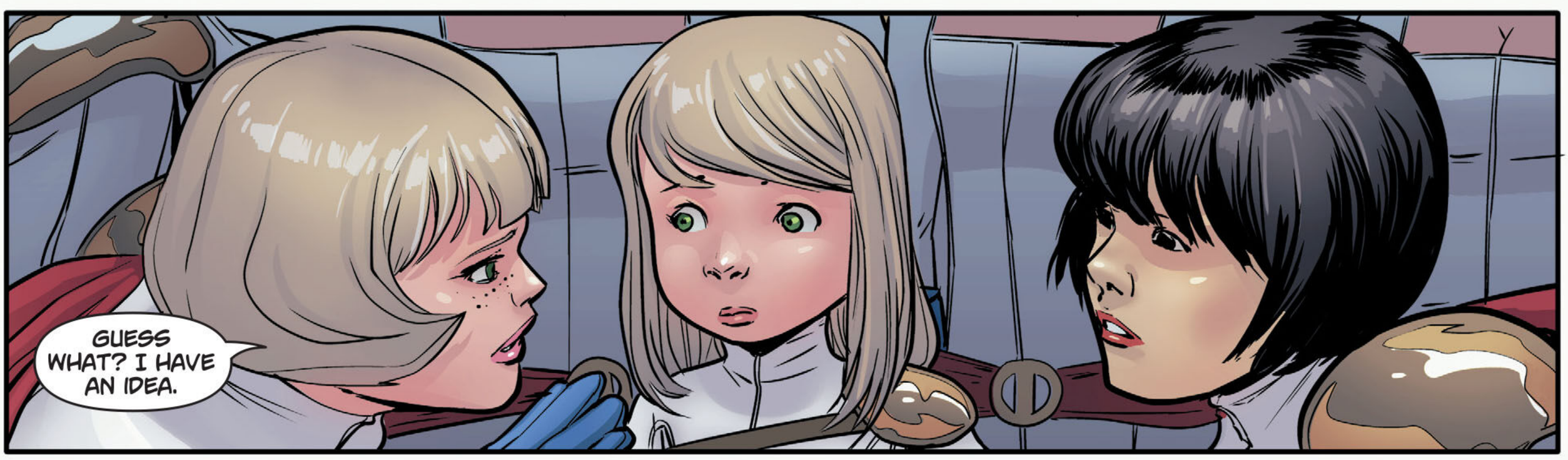

DARE I EVEN ASK WHAT THIS THING IS?
I FORGET WHAT IT'S CALLED EXACTLY. A MICROCELLULAR REPLICATION SOMETHING OR OTHER. I STOLE IT FROM THE AZAAR, TOO.
BASICALLY, IT'S GOING TO COPY YOUR DNA, CELLULAR STRUCTURE, CHEMICAL COMPOSITION, STUFF LIKE THAT.

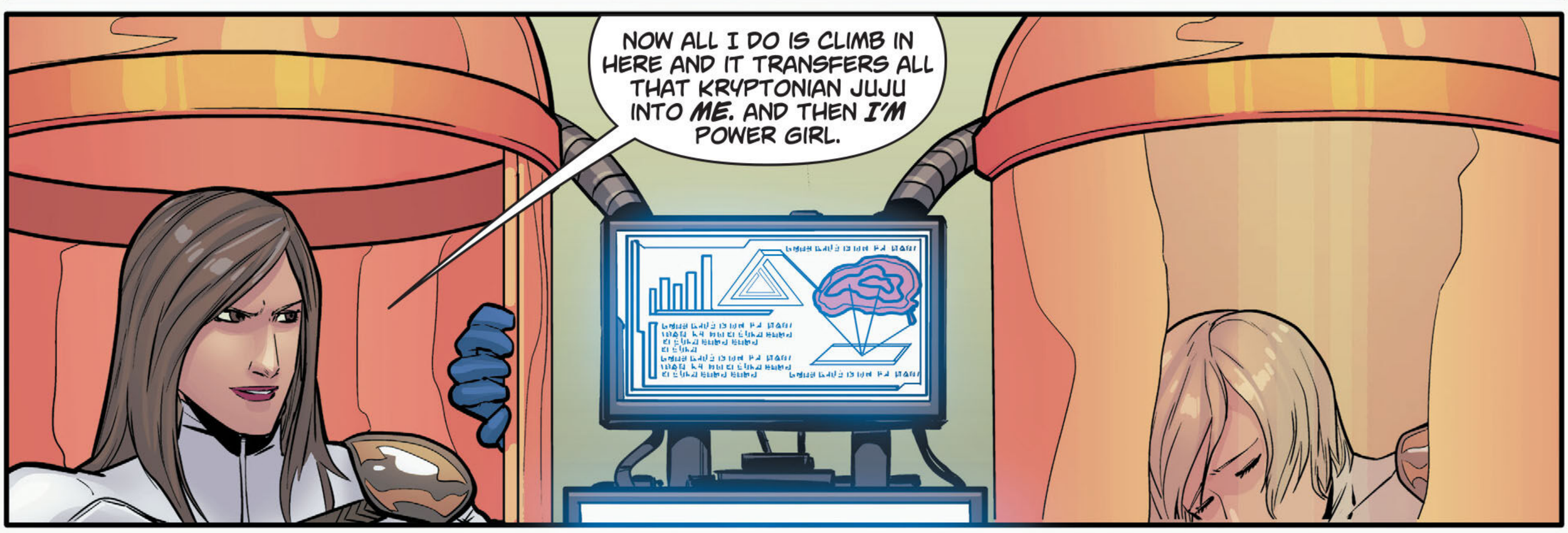

AND THEN IT'S GOING TO PASTE IT-- INTO ME.
ACCORDING TO THE MANUAL, THIS MIGHT HURT A BIT.

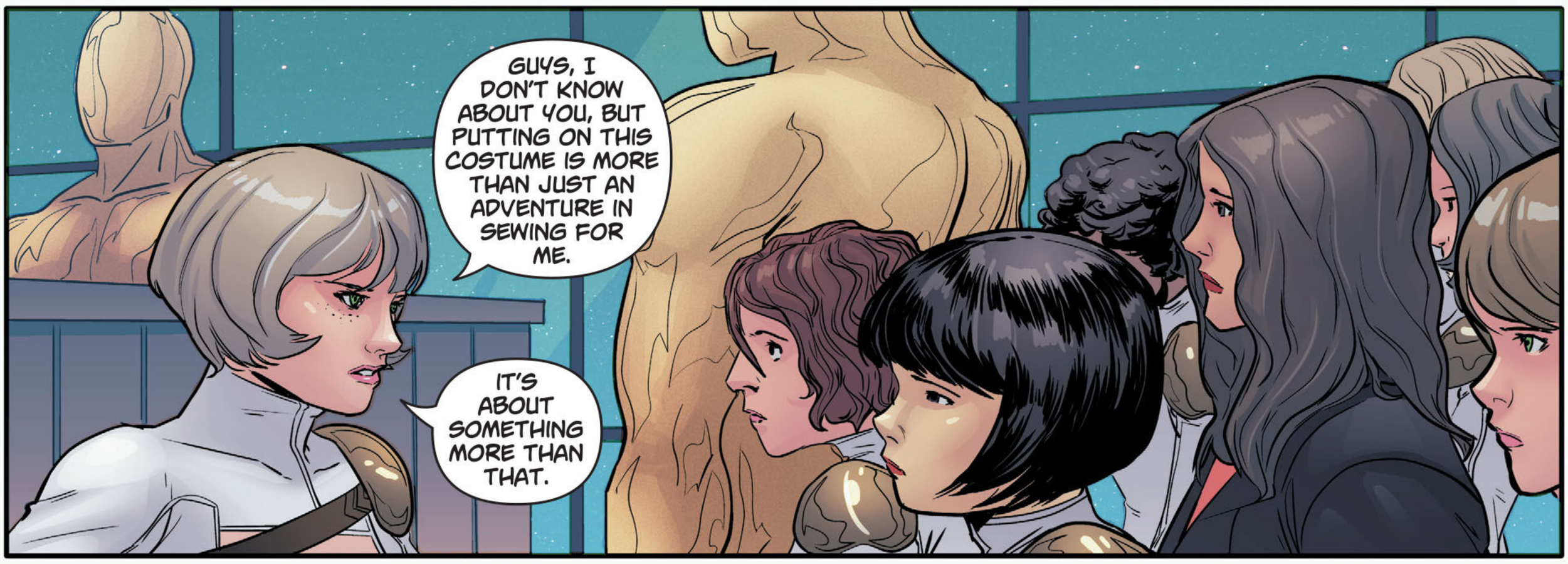
AIEEEEEEEE!

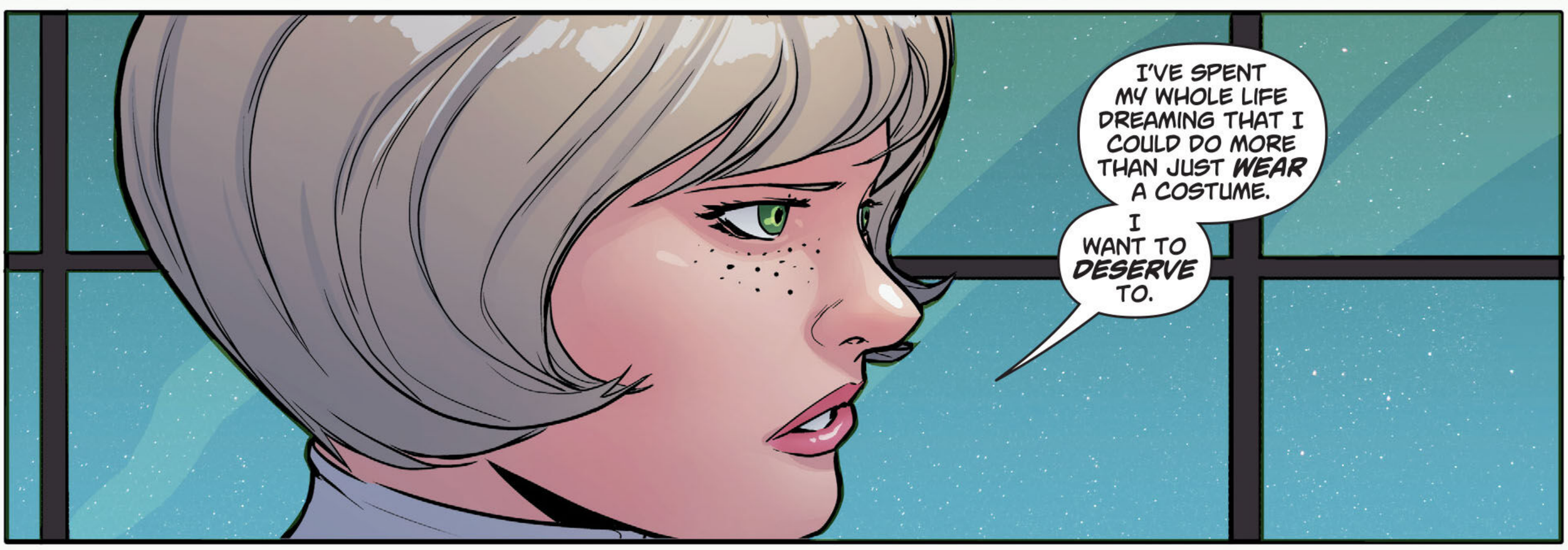

WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING. WE HAVE TO SAVE HER.
US? WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?
WE'RE GOING TO FACE EVIL, IS WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO, LADIES.

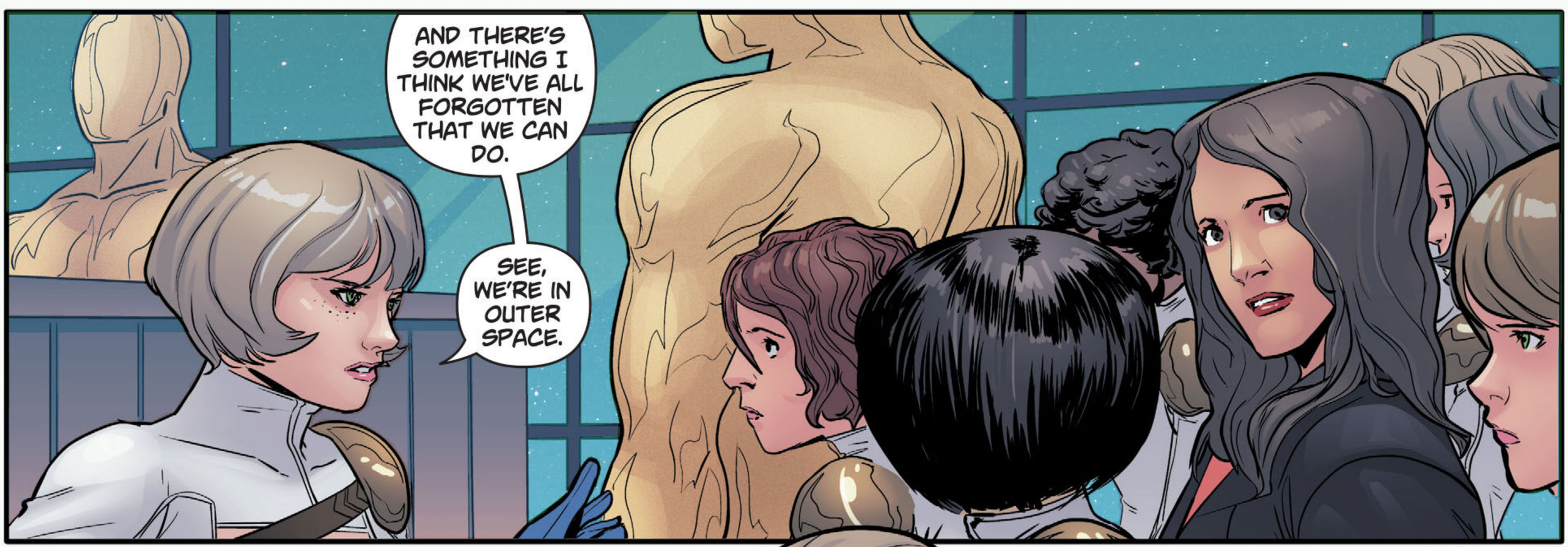

YOU KNOW, THE IRONY IS THAT THIS MORNING I ALMOST BACKED OUT. I ALMOST CALLED THE WHOLE THING OFF.
THEN YOU GAVE YOUR SPEECH ABOUT GIRL POWER AND EVERYTHING AND IT KIND OF CEMENTED MY WILL.
SO. THANKS. FOR THAT.

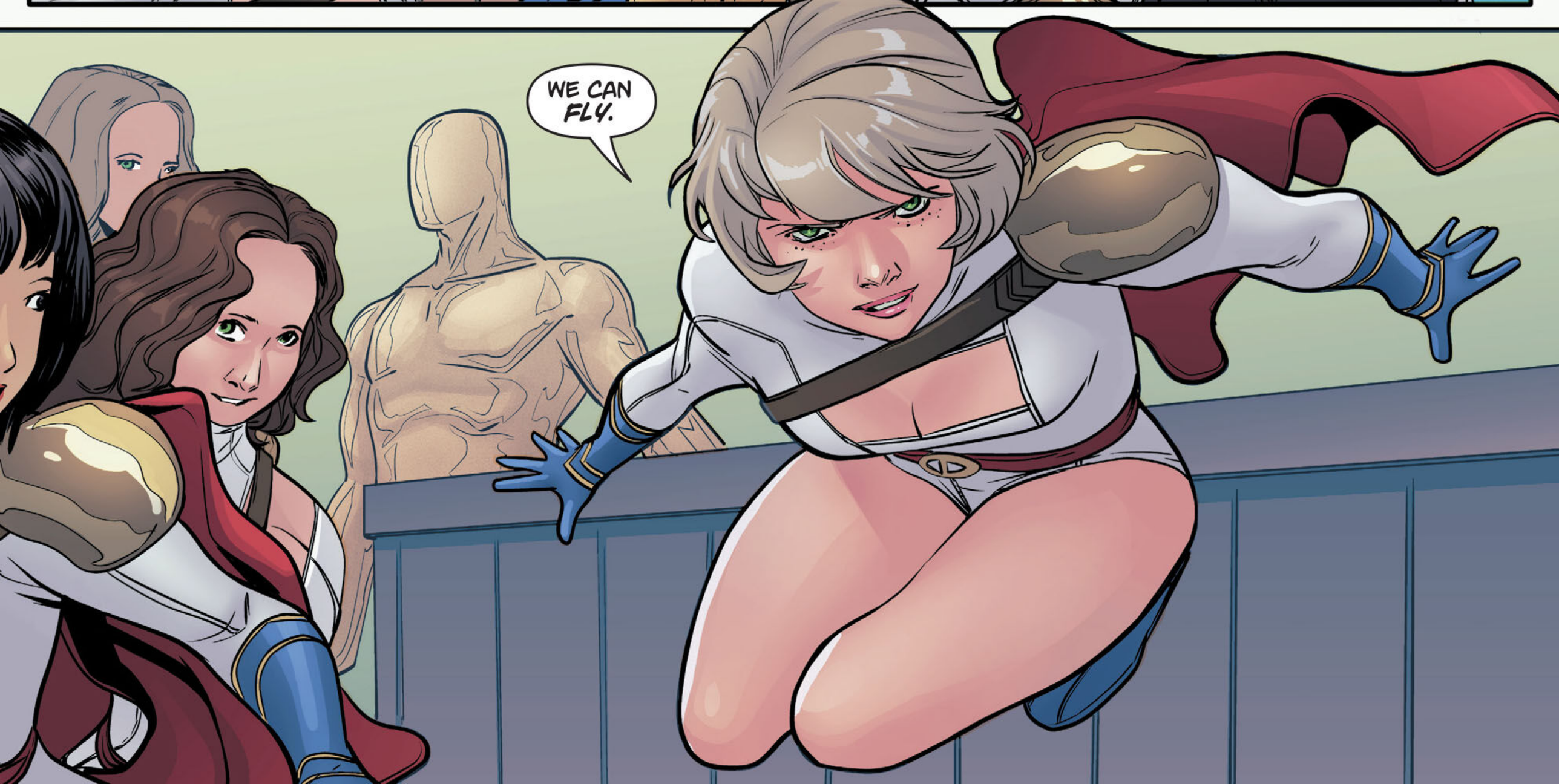

GUESS WHAT? I HAVE AN IDEA.


NOW ALL I DO IS CLIMB IN HERE AND IT TRANSFERS ALL THAT KRYPTONIAN JUJU INTO ME. AND THEN I'M POWER GIRL.


GUYS, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT PUTTING ON THIS COSTUME IS MORE THAN JUST AN ADVENTURE IN SEWING FOR ME.
IT'S ABOUT SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT.

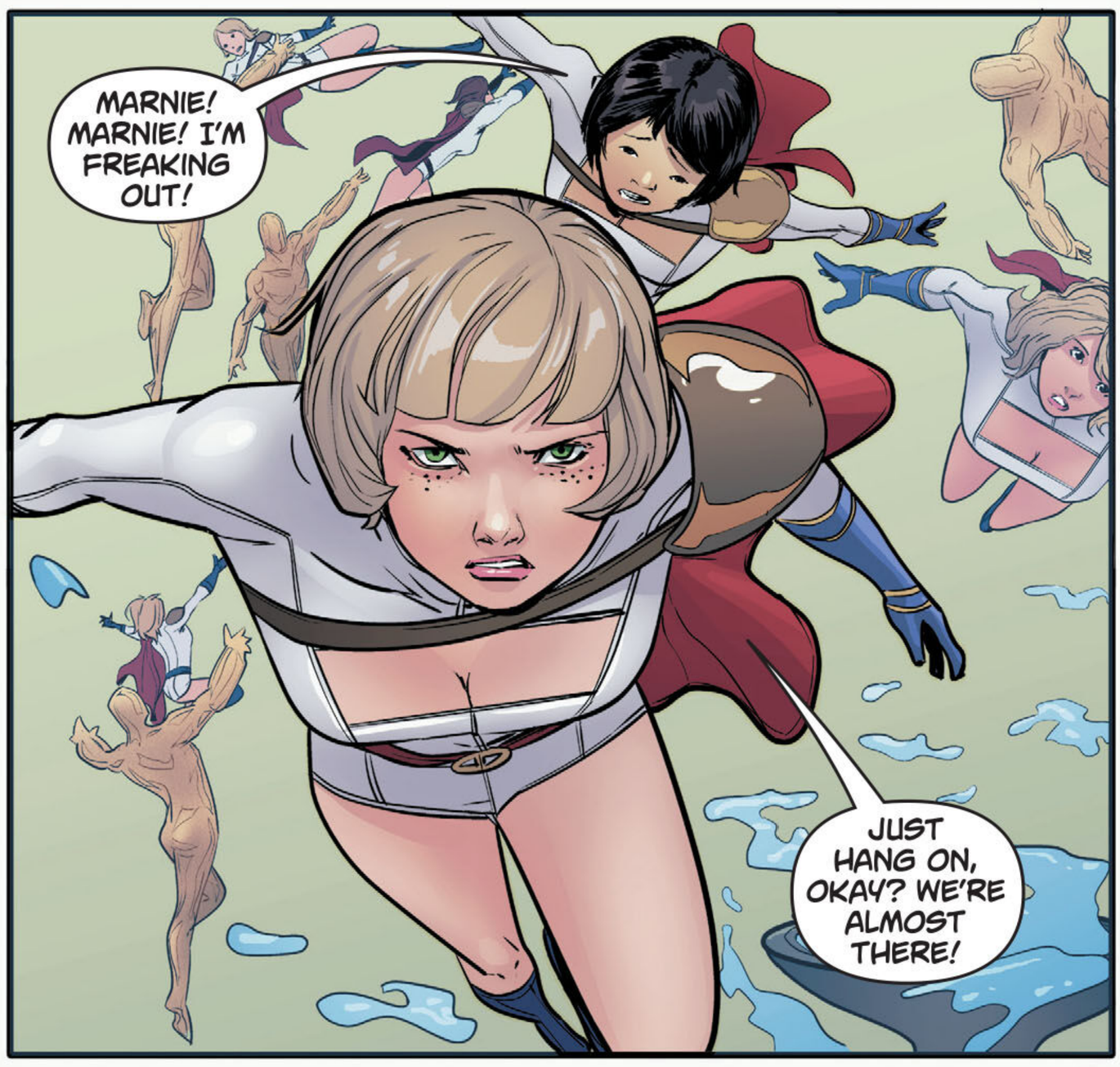

I'VE SPENT MY WHOLE LIFE DREAMING THAT I COULD DO MORE THAN JUST WEAR A COSTUME.
I WANT TO DESERVE TO.

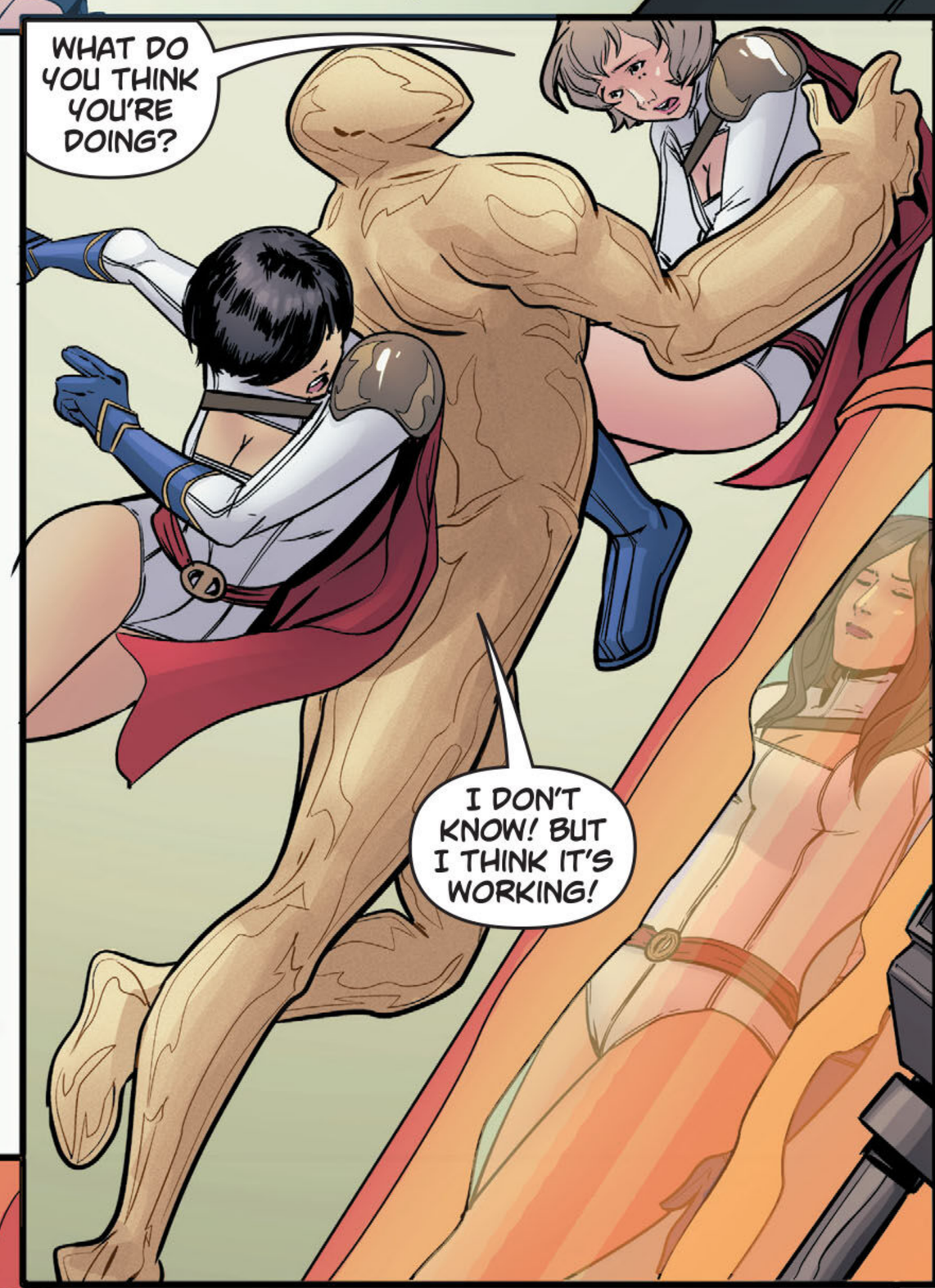

AND THERE'S SOMETHING I THINK WE'VE ALL FORGOTTEN THAT WE CAN DO.
SEE, WE'RE IN OUTER SPACE.

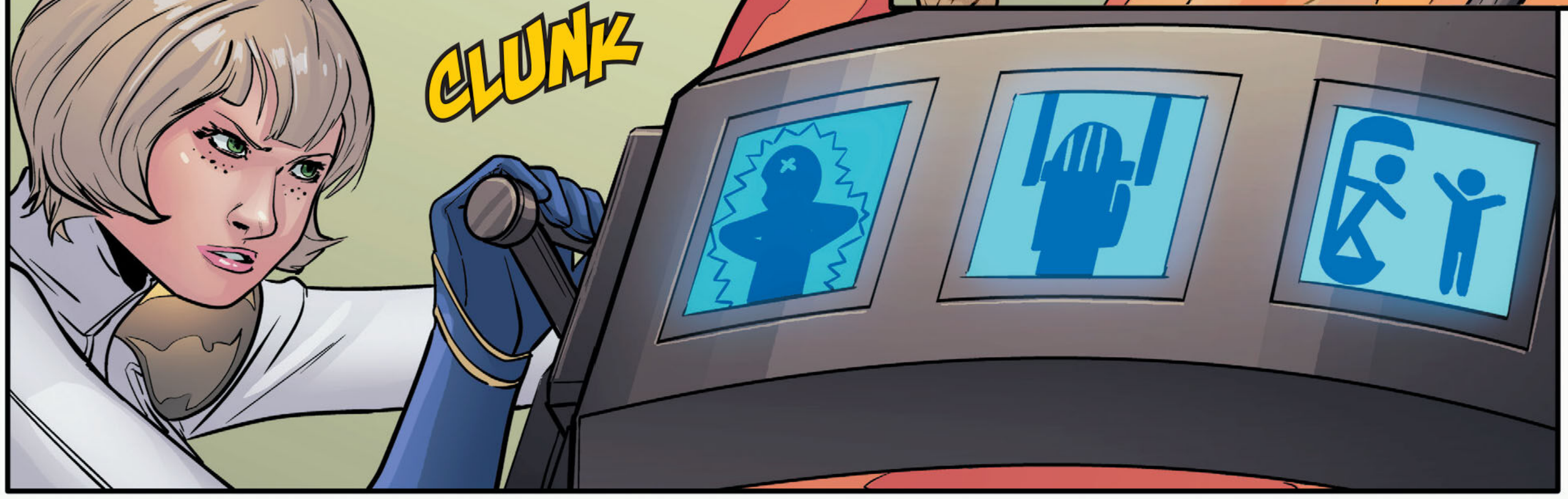

WE CAN FLY.

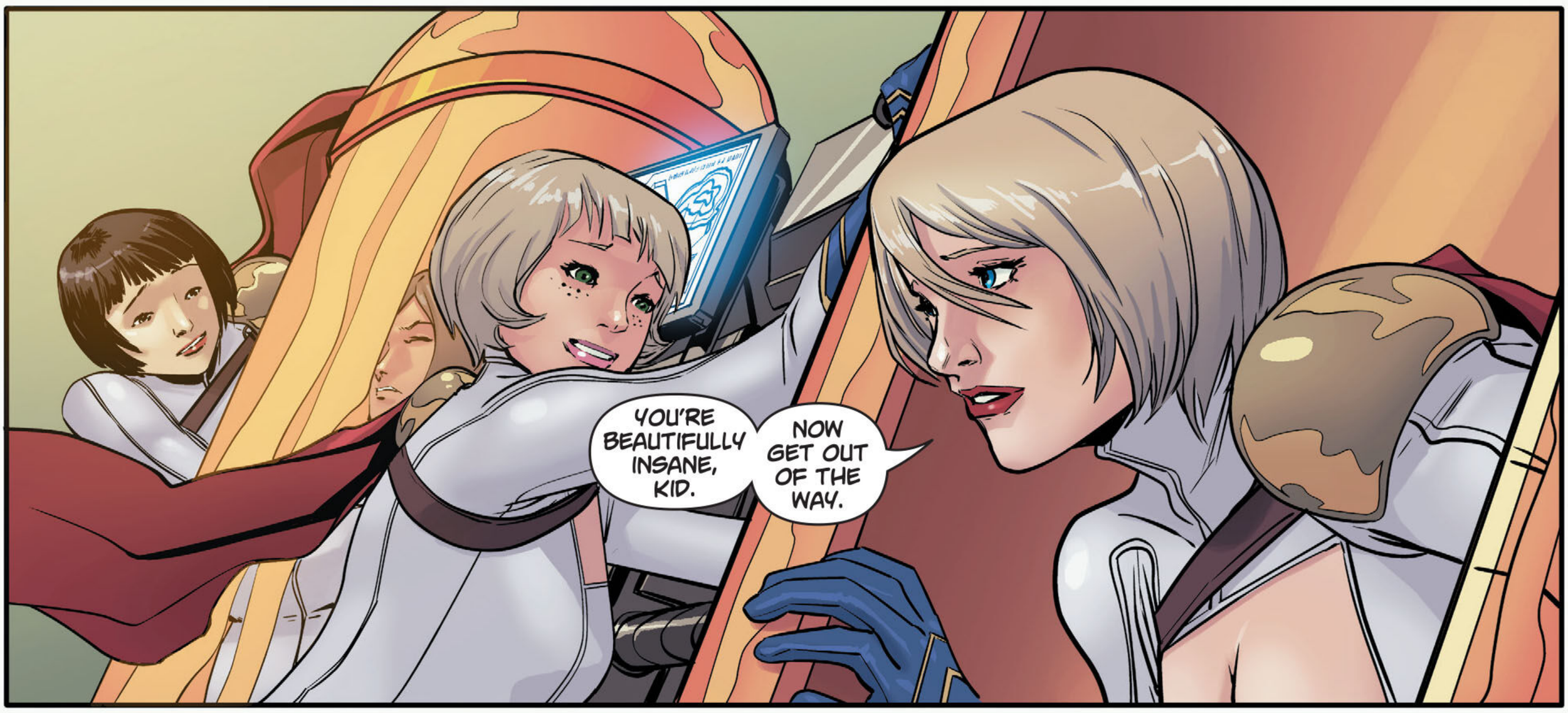
POWER GIRL.

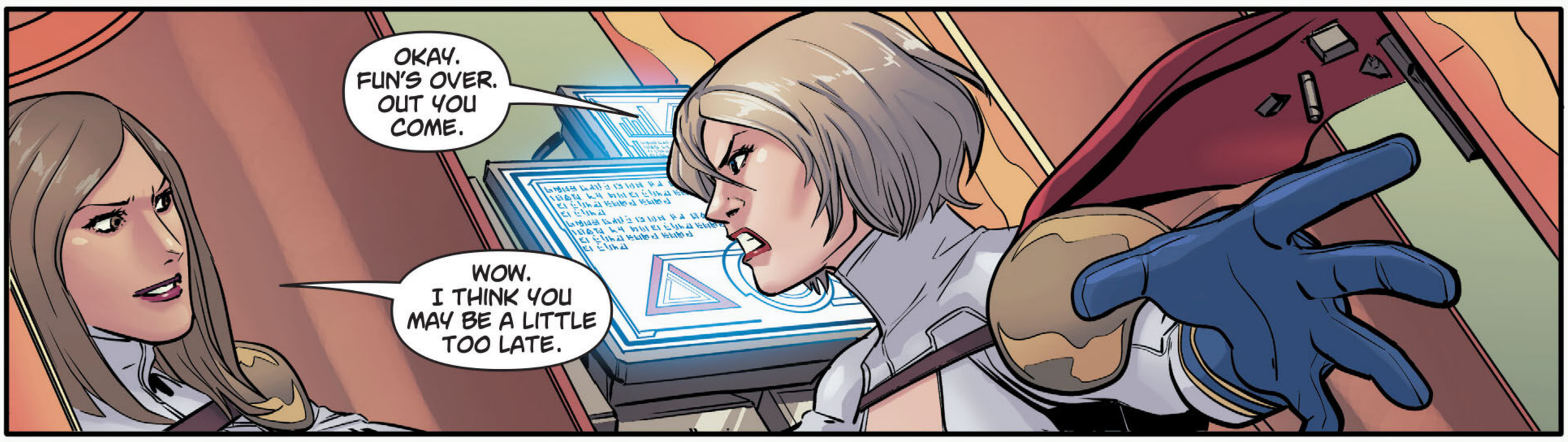
HELL, YEAH.

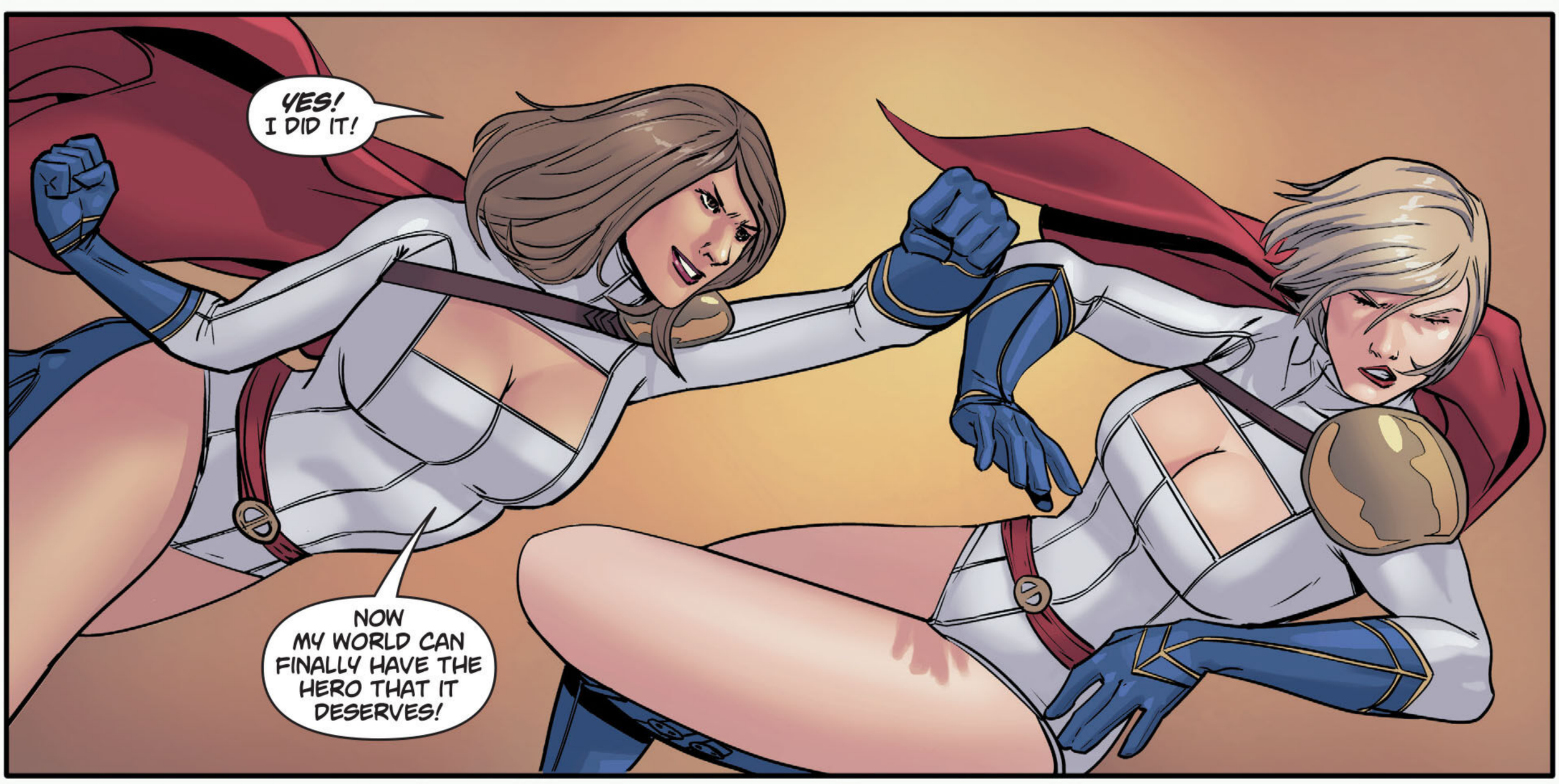


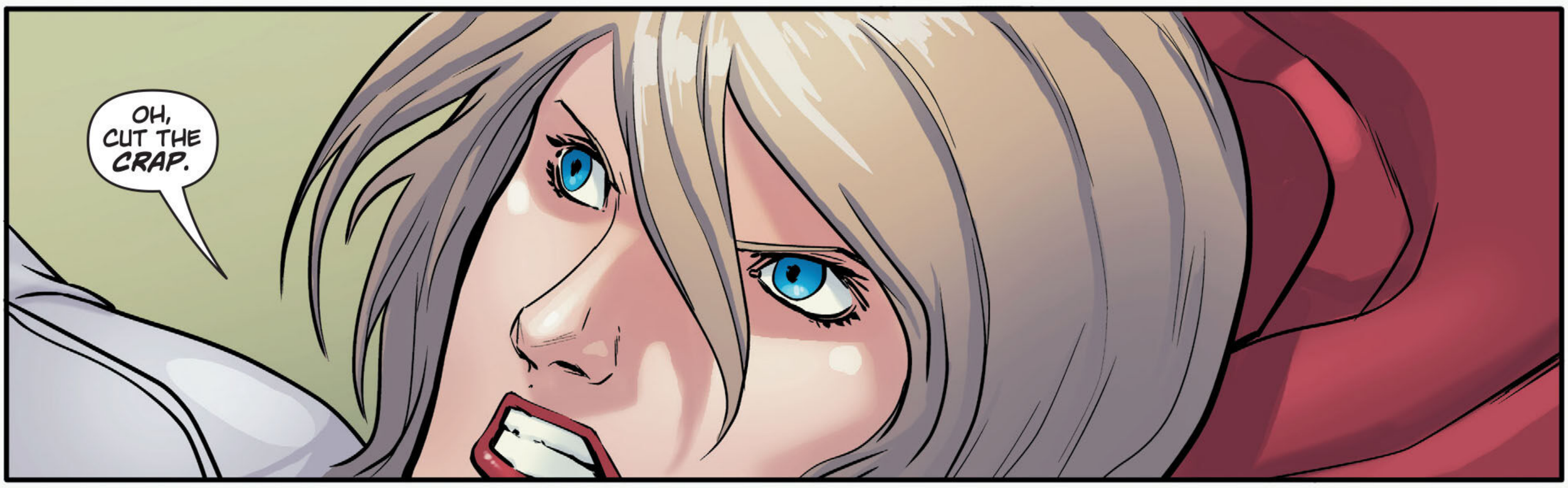





YOU'RE BEAUTIFULLY INSANE, KID.
NOW GET OUT OF THE WAY.


OKAY. FUN'S OVER. OUT YOU COME.
WOW. I THINK YOU MAY BE A LITTLE TOO LATE.


YES! I DID IT!
NOW MY WORLD CAN FINALLY HAVE THE HERO THAT IT DESERVES!


OH, CUT THE CRAP.

YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A *HERO*. YOU JUST WANT TO BE *SUPER*.

THWUD

WHOOOSH

WHAT'S *THAT* SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR PEOPLE AT ALL. THIS IS ABOUT *YOU*.

IF ALL YOU REALLY CARED ABOUT WAS HELPING YOUR PEOPLE, YOU WOULD HAVE GONE ABOUT THIS IN A *VASTLY* DIFFERENT WAY.

I'M DOING THIS TO *SAVE MY PEOPLE*.

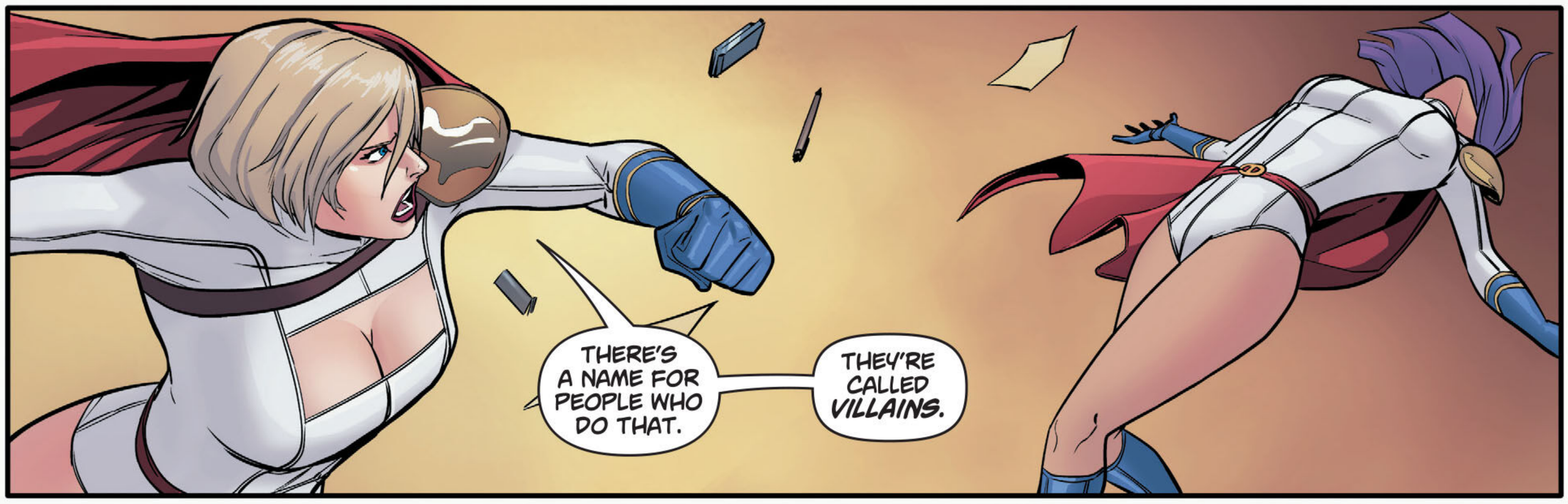
THAT'S WHAT YOU TELL YOURSELF.

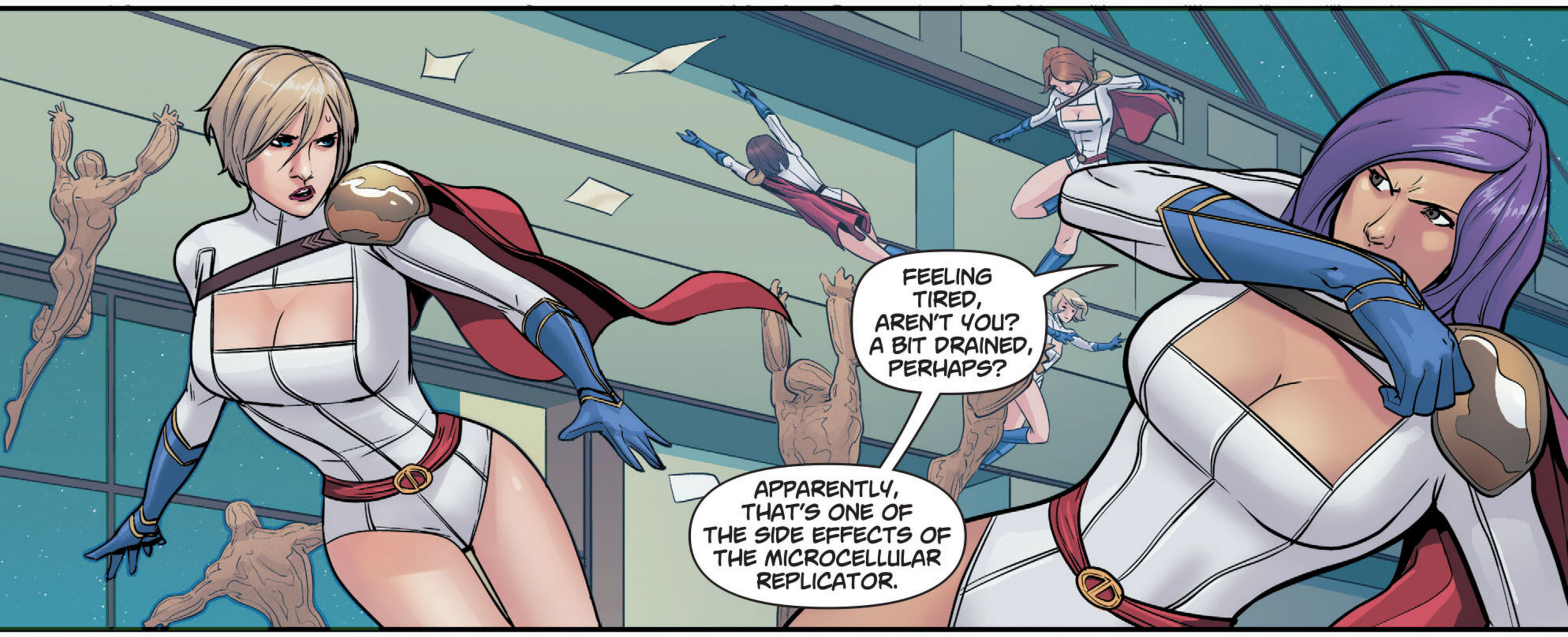
BUT MUCH SMARTER PEOPLE THAN YOU HAVE DELUDED THEMSELVES INTO THINKING THEY'RE HELPING EVERYONE ELSE, WHEN REALLY THEY'RE JUST HELPING THEMSELVES.

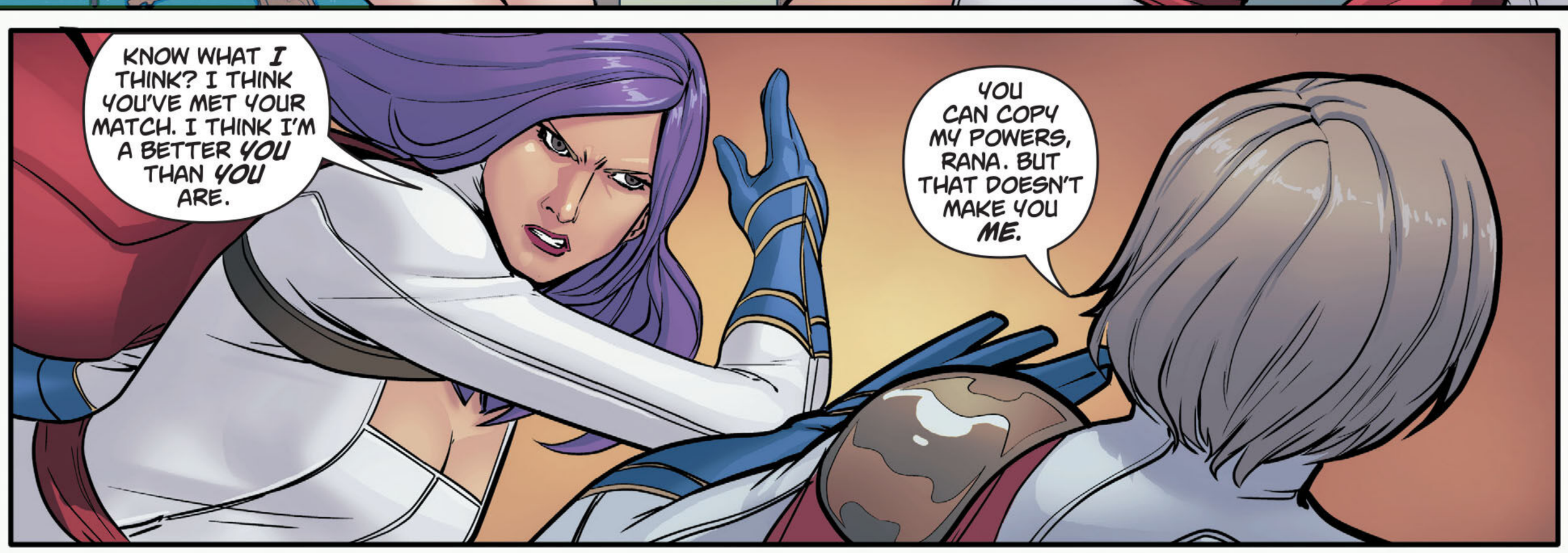
A GUY NAMED *LEX* COMES TO MIND. EVER HEARD OF HIM?

HOW *DARE* YOU? WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE?

BECAUSE A HERO DOESN'T HURT PEOPLE IN ORDER TO GET WHAT SHE WANTS.

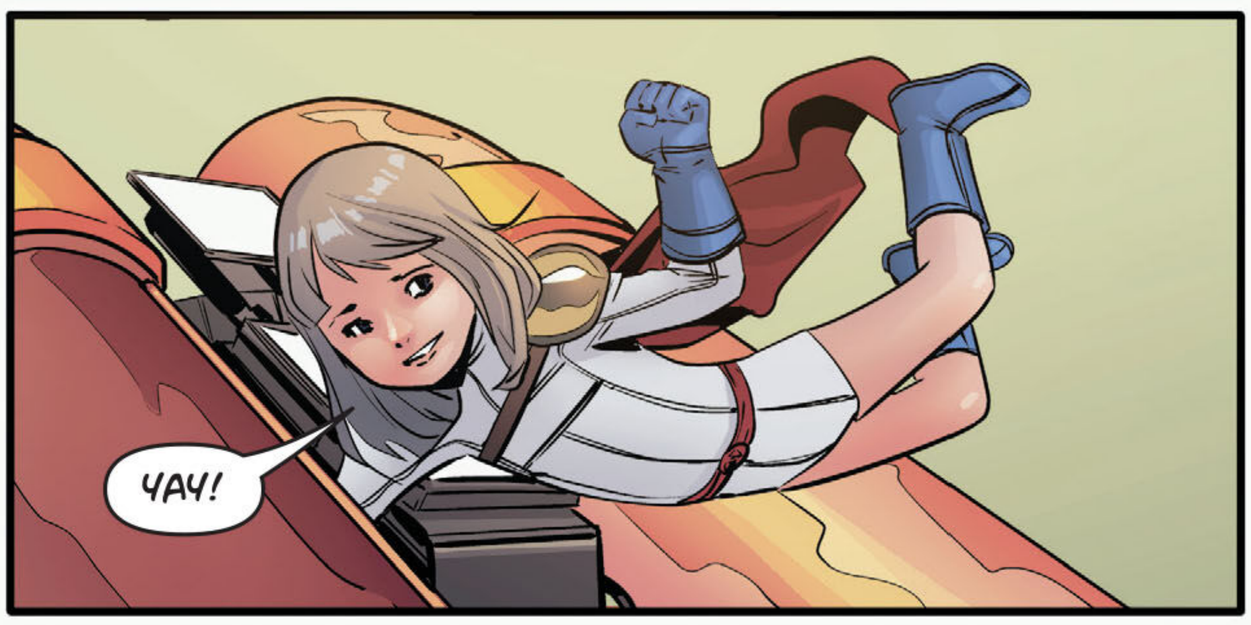

THERE'S A NAME FOR PEOPLE WHO DO THAT.
THEY'RE CALLED VILLAINS.

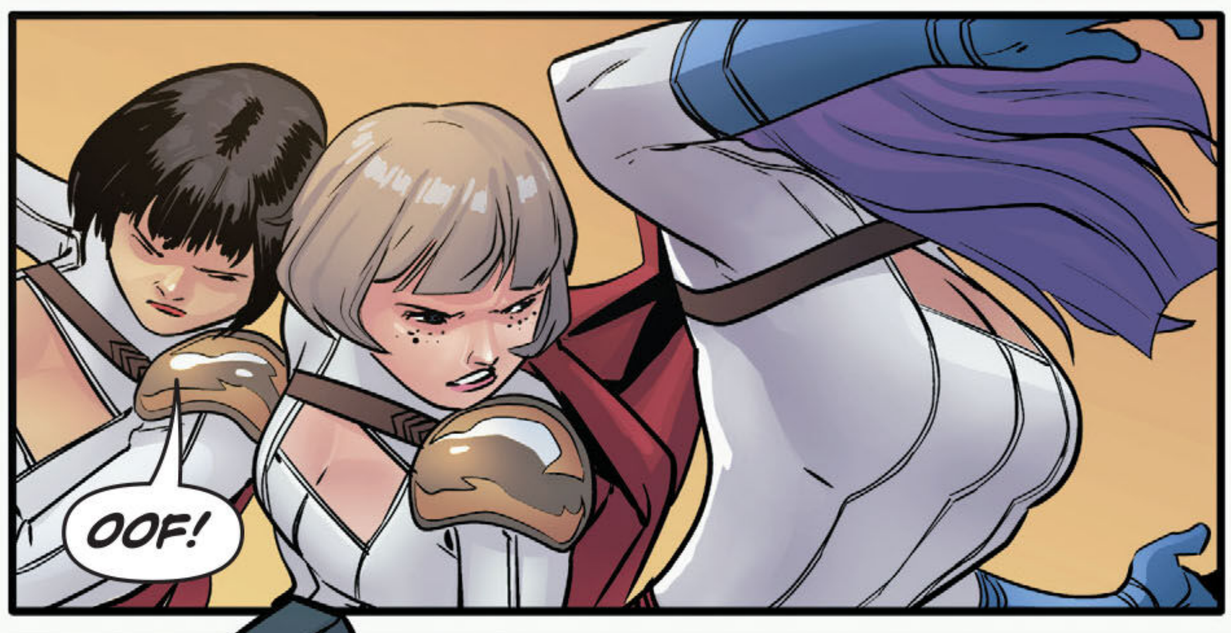

FEELING TIRED, AREN'T YOU? A BIT DRAINED, PERHAPS?
APPARENTLY, THAT'S ONE OF THE SIDE EFFECTS OF THE MICROCELLULAR REPLICATOR.


KNOW WHAT I THINK? I THINK YOU'VE MET YOUR MATCH. I THINK I'M A BETTER YOU THAN YOU ARE.
YOU CAN COPY MY POWERS, RANA. BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU ME.

YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT--I'M NOWHERE NEAR AS SANCTIMONIOUS!
HEY! YOU!

YOU LEFT YOUR MACHINE ON.



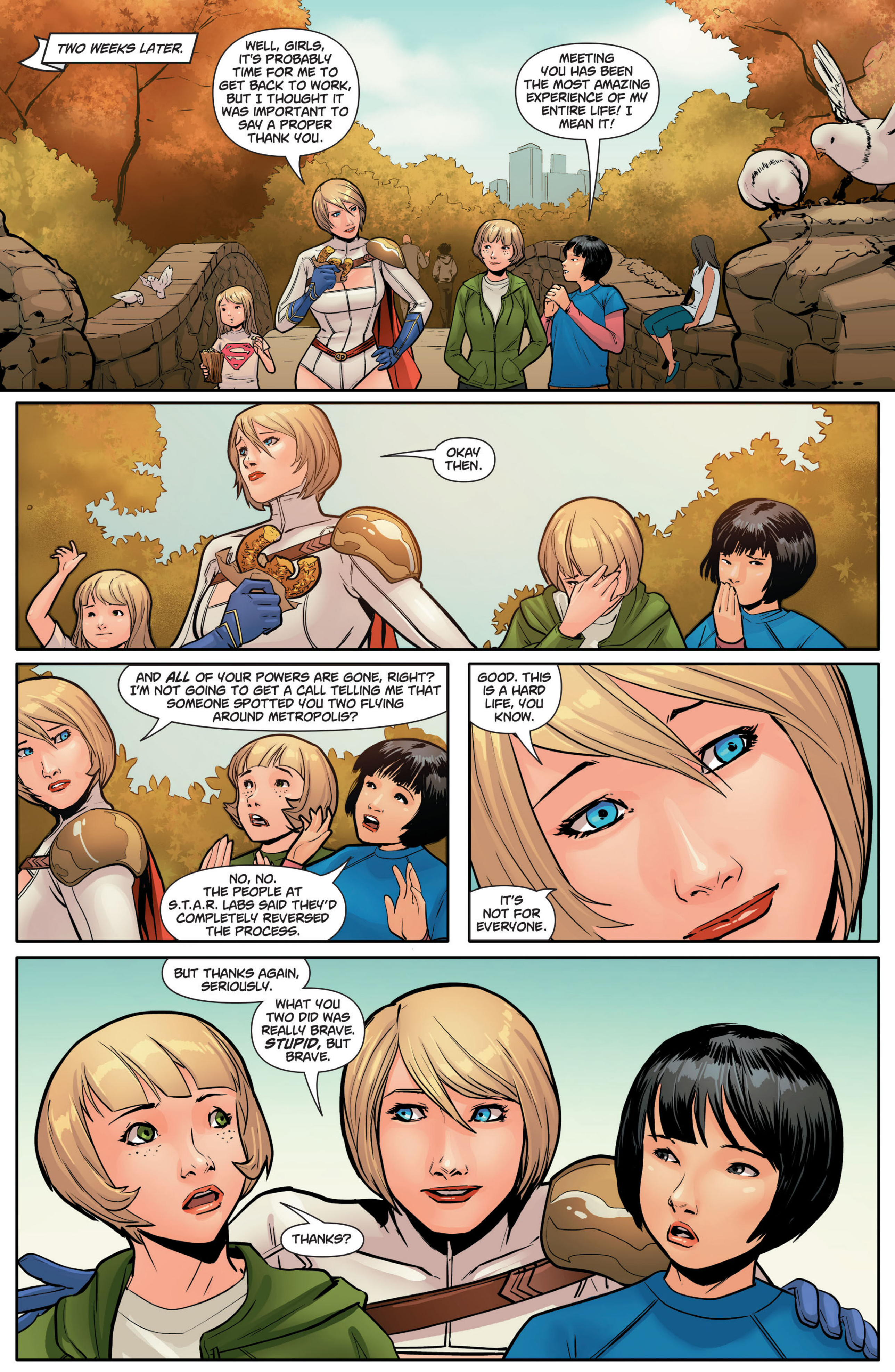


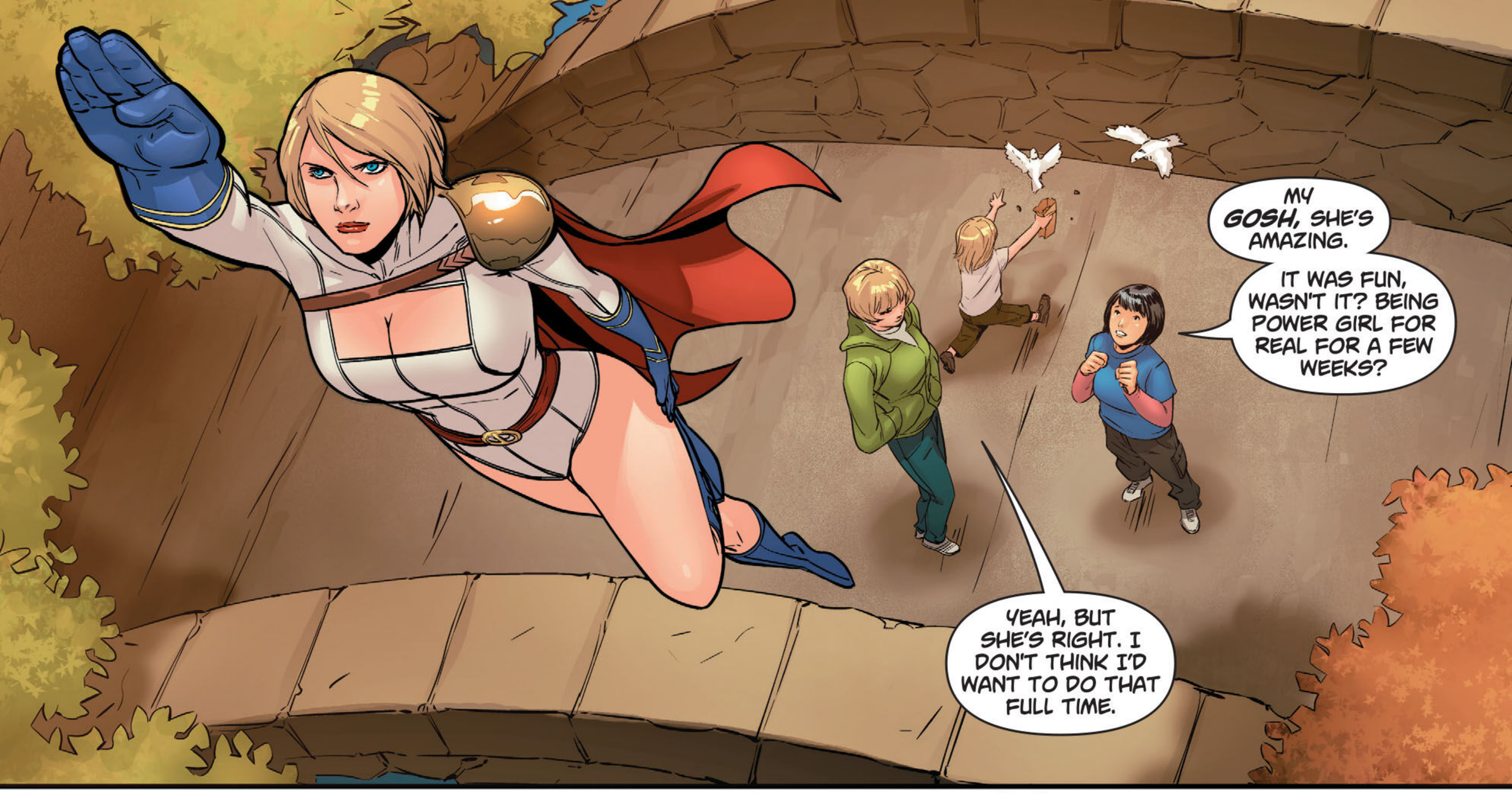
YOU... SUCK!

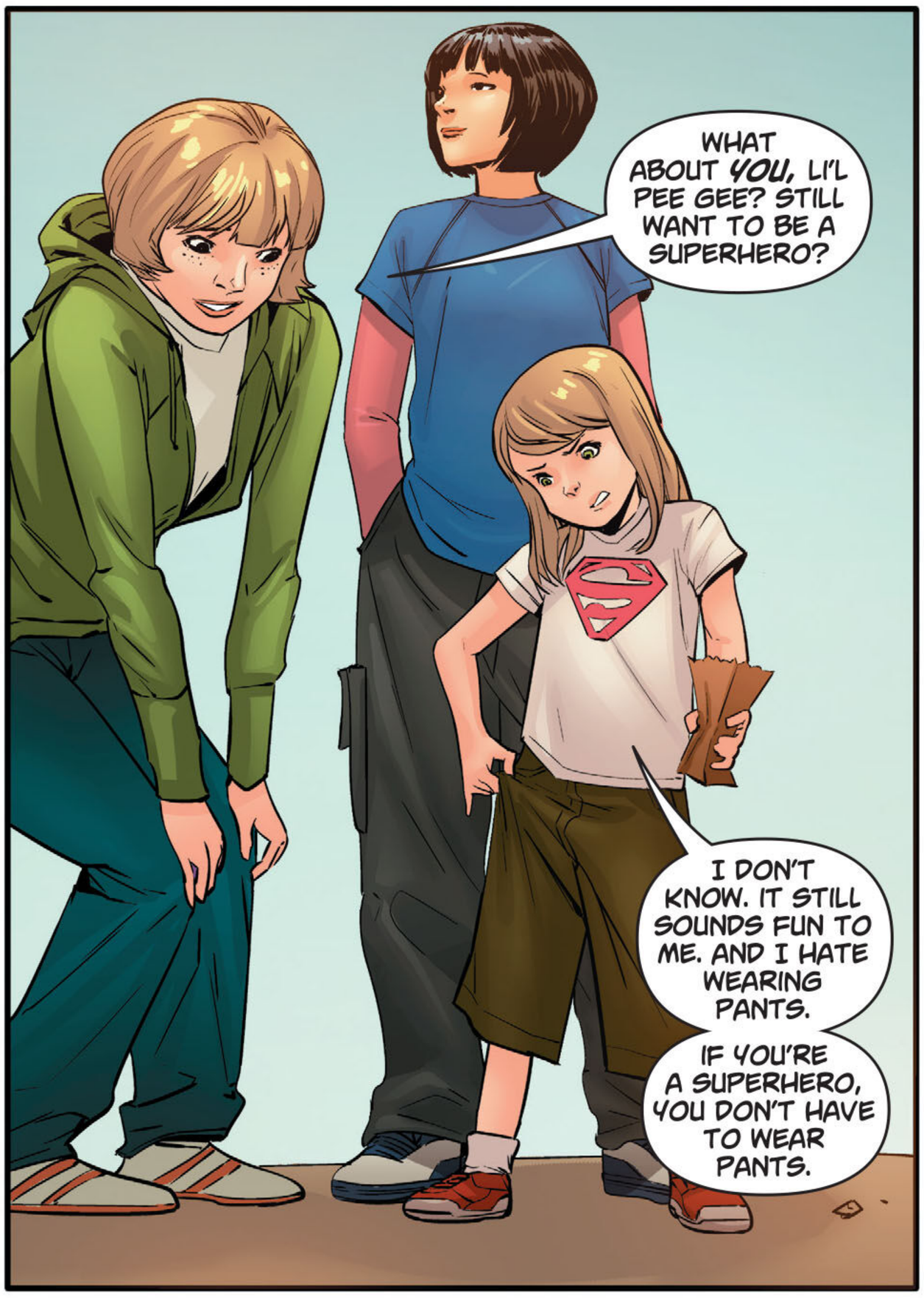
OW!

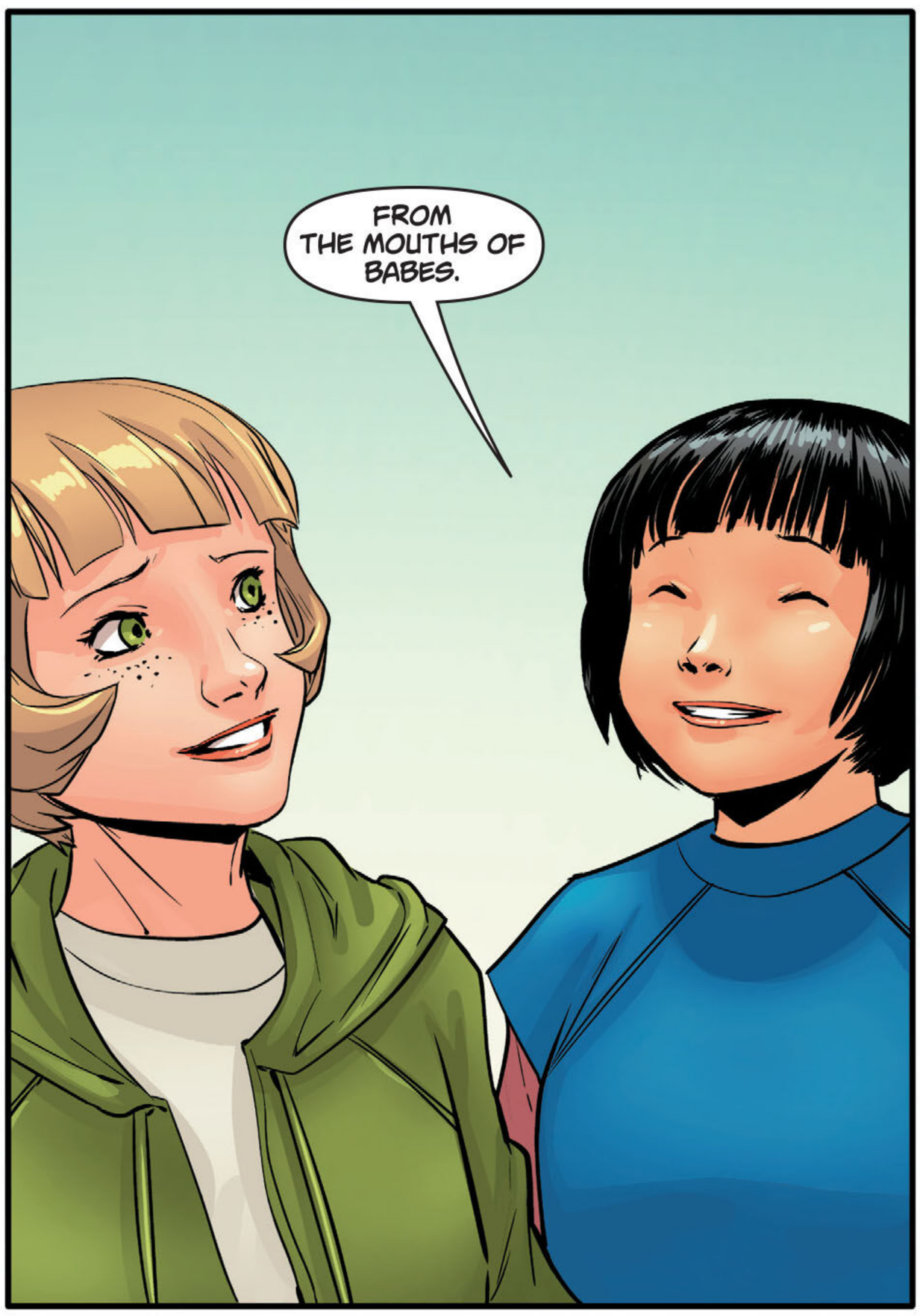
KA-POW

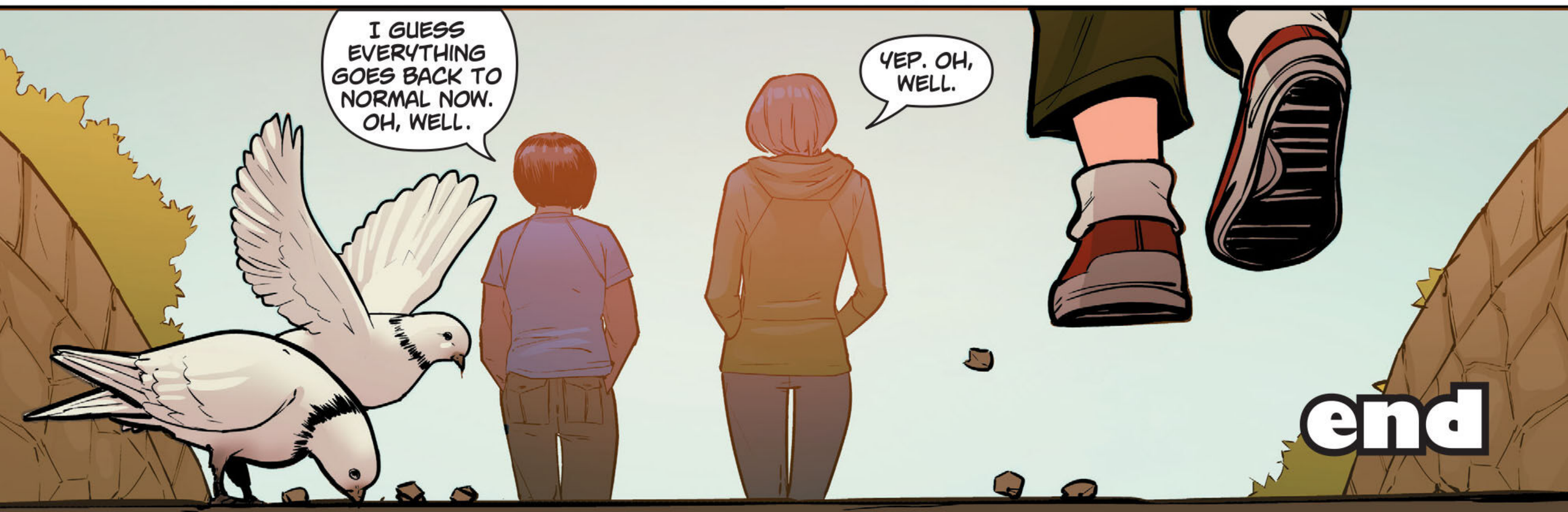
I HAVE TO TELL YOU, YOU'RE NOT EVEN REMOTELY THREATENING, KID.
YOU'RE THAT KIND OF GIRL THAT OTHER GIRLS HATE, AREN'T YOU?
BUT THAT'S OKAY, BECAUSE I'M NOT ACTUALLY PLANNING ON FIGHTING YOU.
NO? THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING GETTING IN MY FACE?
I GUESS I'M DISTRACTING YOU?
FROM WHAT?
FROM THAT?


TWO WEEKS LATER.
WELL, GIRLS, IT'S PROBABLY TIME FOR ME TO GET BACK TO WORK, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO SAY A PROPER THANK YOU.
MEETING YOU HAS BEEN THE MOST AMAZING EXPERIENCE OF MY ENTIRE LIFE! I MEAN IT!
OKAY THEN.
AND ALL OF YOUR POWERS ARE GONE, RIGHT? I'M NOT GOING TO GET A CALL TELLING ME THAT SOMEONE SPOTTED YOU TWO FLYING AROUND METROPOLIS?
NO, NO. THE PEOPLE AT S.T.A.R. LABS SAID THEY'D COMPLETELY REVERSED THE PROCESS.
GOOD. THIS IS A HARD LIFE, YOU KNOW.
IT'S NOT FOR EVERYONE.
BUT THANKS AGAIN, SERIOUSLY.
WHAT YOU TWO DID WAS REALLY BRAVE. STUPID, BUT BRAVE.
THANKS?


MY GOSH, SHE'S AMAZING.
IT WAS FUN, WASN'T IT? BEING POWER GIRL FOR REAL FOR A FEW WEEKS?
YEAH, BUT SHE'S RIGHT. I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO DO THAT FULL TIME.


WHAT ABOUT YOU, LI'L PEE GEE? STILL WANT TO BE A SUPERHERO?
I DON'T KNOW. IT STILL SOUNDS FUN TO ME. AND I HATE WEARING PANTS.
IF YOU'RE A SUPERHERO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WEAR PANTS.


FROM THE MOUTHS OF BABES.


I GUESS EVERYTHING GOES BACK TO NORMAL NOW. OH, WELL.
YEP. OH, WELL.
end

FROM THE WRITER OF
GREEN LANTERN *AND* SUPERMAN

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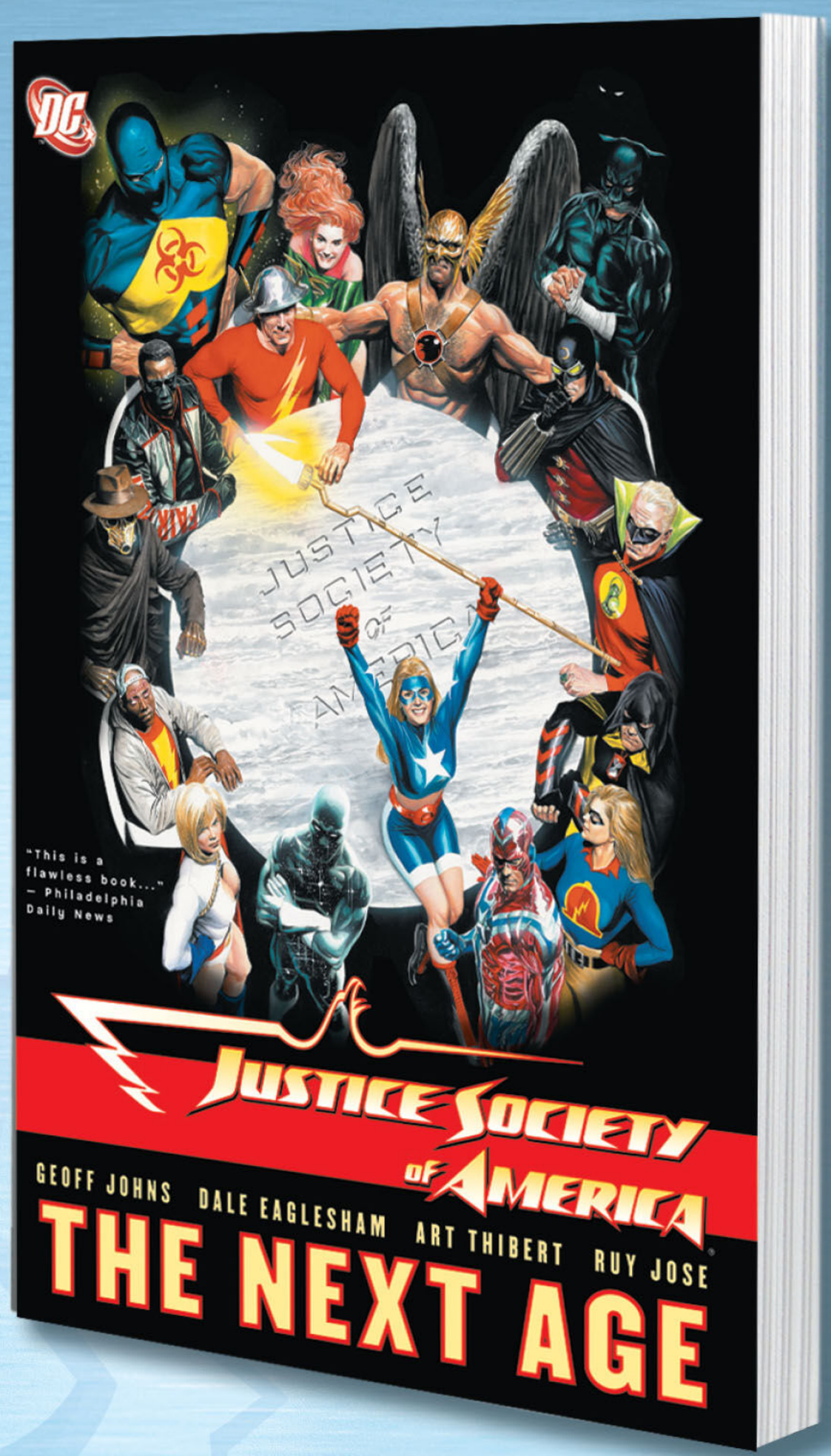
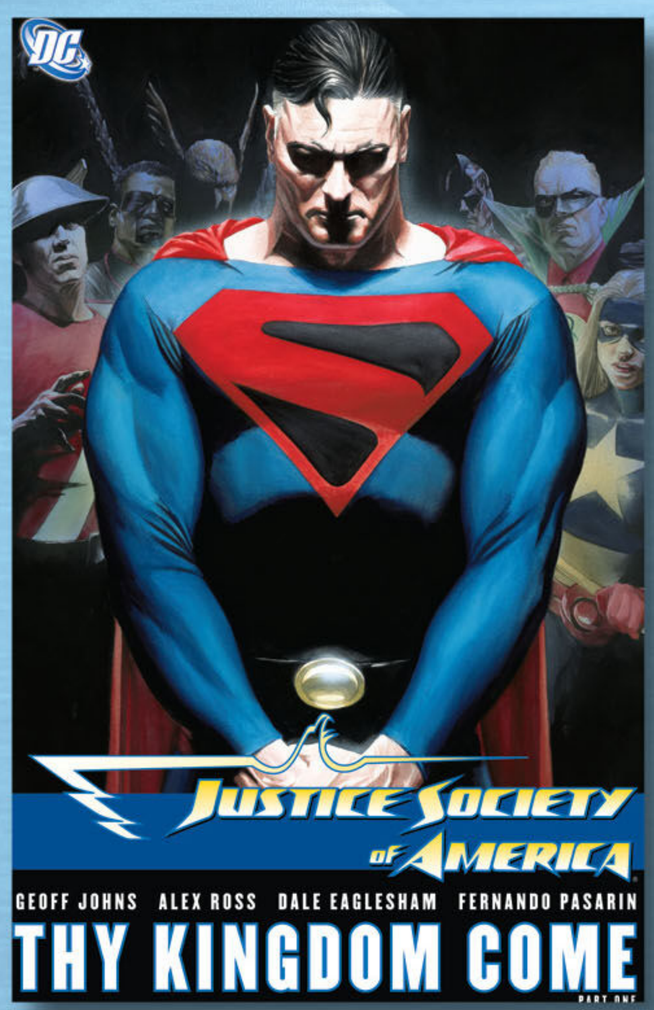


JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 1



with
DALE EAGLESHAM
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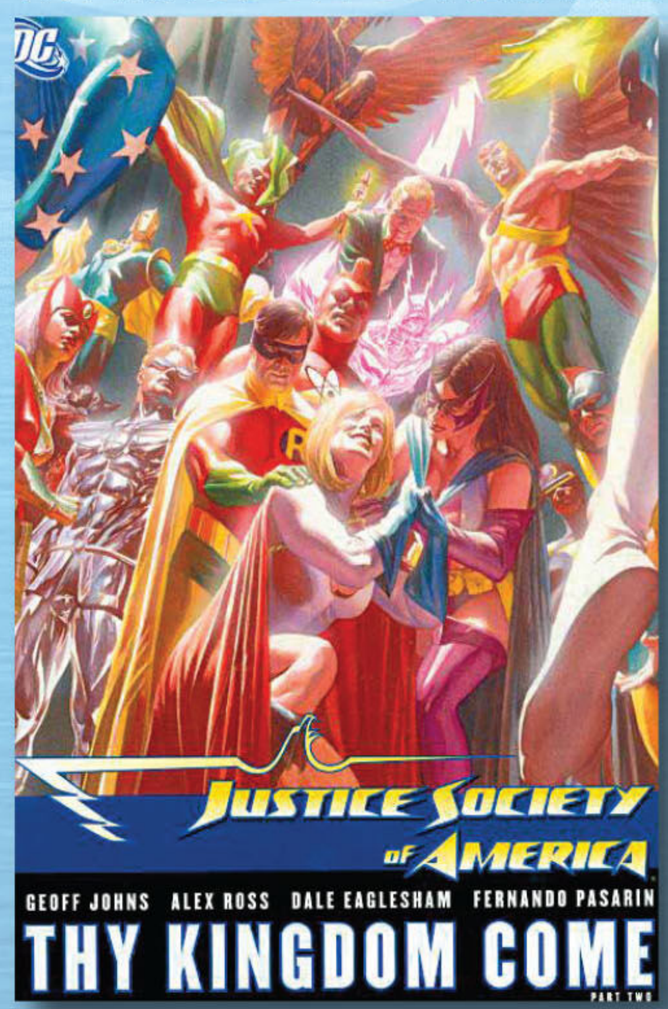
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 2



with
DALE EAGLESHAM
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JUSTICE SOCIETY
OF AMERICA
THY KINGDOM COME PART 3

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